UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

JARED L. WHITT

Plaintiff

CIVIL ACTION NO.

VS.

8:12-CV-00358

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY

Defendant

FEBRUARY 28, 2014

DEPOSITION OF DOUGLAS CASA, PH.D.

APPEARANCES:

For the Plaintiff:

BRENT COON AND ASSOCIATES

3801 E. Florida Avenue, Suite 905

Denver, Colorado 80210

BY: JAMES L. COX, JR., ESQ.

For the Defendant:

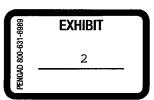
LAMSON, DUGAN AND MURRAY, LLP

10306 Regency Parkway Drive

Omaha, Nebraska 68114

BY: DAVID J. SCHMITT, ESQ.

JULIE BLIER, BA, LCR 0093, NOTARY PUBLIC



. . . Deposition of DOUGLAS CASA, Ph.D., taken on behalf of the Defendant, in the hereinbefore entitled action, pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, before Julie Blier, BA, LCR, and duly qualified Notary Public in and for the State of Connecticut, at the Nathan Hale Inn, 855 Bolton Road, Storrs, Connecticut 06268, commencing at 9:00 a.m., on February 28, 2014.

DOUGLAS CASA, PH.D., with an 1 address of 75 Maple Road, Storrs, 2 Connecticut 06268, having first been 3 duly sworn, deposed and testified as 4 5 follows: BY MR. SCHMITT: 6 7 Q All right. Sir, my name is Dave Schmitt, I'm a lawyer, I represent Union Pacific Railroad 8 9 Company in a lawsuit that has been filed by Jared 10 I understand that you're been designated as an expert witness by Mr. Whitt, is that correct? 11 Α Yes. 12 I'm here to take your deposition today to 13 find out about all opinions that you have in regards 14 to this case as well as all bases and reasons for your 15 opinions. All right? 16 So if at any point during this deposition 17 you don't understand my question or I'm unclear please 18 19 ask me to repeat or rephrase it and I'll be happy to 20 do so. Okay? 21 Α Yes. If at any time you would like to take a 22 23 break we can certainly do so, you just need to let us 24 know. All right? Α Yes. 25

- 1 Q What is your occupation?
- 2 A I'm a professor at the University of
- 3 Connecticut.
- 4 Q What do you do at the University of
- 5 Connecticut as a professor?
- 6 A I'm a professor in the department of
- 7 kinesiology.
- 8 Q What is that?
- 9 A It's a study kind of human movement so it
- 10 might involve things like exercise science and sports
- 11 medicine and biomechanics and strengthening
- 12 conditioning, things like that.
- Q Are there certain aspects of that field that
- are particularly relevant to the types of opinions
- that you're rendering in this case?
- 16 A Yes. Well, my background is in sports
- 17 medicine and exercise physiology so it's kind of a
- 18 combination of those two factors.
- 19 (Defendant's Exhibit 39 marked for
- 20 Identification.)
- 21 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 22 O Okay. I'm going to hand you what's been
- 23 marked as Exhibit 39. Is that a true and accurate of
- 24 your curriculum vitae?
- 25 A I'm just noting that the date is June of

- 1 2013 so I think I have one that's maybe updated
- 2 through November 2013 that I can get forwarded to you,
- 3 it would just be a couple of additional publications.
- 4 Q Okay.
- 5 A But everything else is accurate to this
- 6 point.
- 7 Q Let's do this then, if you would forward a
- 8 copy of your updated CV to Jim Cox and I would ask
- 9 that he forward it to me.
- 10 A Yes.
- MR. COX: I'll do that.
- 12 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 13 Q And the only changes that need to be made to
- 14 Exhibit 39 to make it more accurately reflect your
- experience, education and training is that there have
- been a couple of additional publications?
- 17 A Yes, I would say there's probably ten
- 18 publications from that point and there might be some
- 19 presentations as well.
- 20 Q Were there any publications or presentations
- that were particularly relevant to the issues you're
- discussing in this case?
- 23 A To be honest they probably all are only
- 24 because they're all related to heat and hydration, my
- 25 publications, we could actually do a quick PubMed

- 1 search and see what came up since that date but I'll
- 2 make sure you get those.
- 3 Q All right. In reviewing your curriculum
- 4 vitae, and it's fairly extensive, at least this
- 5 Exhibit 39, I count it looks like it's 82 pages, is
- 6 that right?
- 7 A Yes, that's the June one, correct?
- 8 Q Yes.
- 9 A Yes.
- 10 Q As I review this at least from my
- observation it appears as though that your specialty,
- 12 your background is all related to the sports field, is
- 13 that fair?
- 14 A No, I have a lot of experience with military
- and with general stresses of exercise that would be
- 16 relevant for laborers as well.
- 17 Q What percentage of your practice is related
- to sports related issues, in other words, I know
- 19 you're a professor, you teach various courses, we can
- 20 read the CV, it speaks for itself, there's, I can
- 21 continually see, for example, the word sports come up
- for sports players, things like that, what I'm trying
- to do is get an understanding of what percentage of
- 24 your background, your practice, the current work that
- do is really related to sports medicine, in that

field?

A Maybe 50 percent. I would, whenever I have a paper that's published related to heat stroke and exertional heat stroke or hydration topics that's not specific just to sports, I mean, that might be specific to a soldier, a laborer or just people in general.

Q In the military what percentage of your practice is spent with military related issues?

A Well, like I said, a lot of it is overlapping because a good percentage of the work that I do is related to all those things, for instance, like a paper that's published on exertional heat stroke, cold water immersion being the gold standard for treatment, that's relevant to all, anybody who suffers an exertional heat stroke so it's hard to pigeonhole it into one domain.

When I'm writing that I'm thinking about a soldier or a farm worker or an athlete having a heat stroke, and when I do a study on hydration and its effect on cognitive performance that can be a lay person or a soldier or an athlete.

So it's really hard to pigeonhole a study because a lot of it is just looking at physiological effects of people doing intense exercise in the heat

and it's not necessarily an athlete. So it's people who are physically active and have issues related to their exercise, heat tolerance and, you know, things like that. That would be very, very hard for me to

decide how to bridge that out.

Q I understand from your testimony that the work that do you will have overlap into multiple different areas. I guess my question is more related to -- let me ask it this way, what I'm trying to find out is what perhaps the primary focus would be of the work do you, for example, I understand that you might have done some work about exertional heat stroke but, and that you are saying that it can have applications to multiple fields.

The reason for my question is that again as

I read your CV it just seems to be a recurring theme,
that the vast majority virtually all of your CV
appears to be focused, that the work you were doing
was focused on the sports field or perhaps secondarily
some in the military field.

A Like I said it's hard to look at it that way. One way I would consider looking at it is my focus area is exertional heat stroke, issues that affect exercise heat tolerance, and hydration issues. That's probably the best way of putting the work that

- 1 I do.
- 2 Q So there are three points, exertional heat
- 3 stroke --
- 4 A Issues that affect exercise heat tolerance,
- 5 and hydration.
- 6 Q And hydration?
- 7 A I mean that is also part of number two but
- 8 it's enough work there that it could stand alone.
- 9 To give you an example of the things in
- 10 number two could be like body cooling studies, heat
- 11 acclimatization, work to rest radios, sleep issues and
- things that could affect someone's exercise heat
- 13 tolerance.
- 14 When I talk about heat stroke I'm talking
- about prevention, recognition and treatment of heat
- 16 stroke especially exertional heat stroke.
- 17 Q You use the term heat stroke and then
- 18 exertional heat stroke, is there a difference?
- 19 A Well, there's something called classical
- 20 heat stroke.
- Q What is classical heat stroke?
- 22 A That happens to people who are not related
- to exercise. A couple of examples would be like when
- infants are left in cars that are all closed off in
- 25 oppressive heat, or elderly people during a heatwave

- that are like in apartment buildings that aren't air
- 2 conditioned, so they're not exercising but the heat
- 3 becomes so overwhelming for that person that they
- 4 can't regulate their body temperature anymore.
- 5 Q So if that is classical heat stroke then is
- 6 the other category --
- 7 A Is exertional heat stroke. So it's related
- 8 to physical activity, the things we see in farm
- 9 workers, laborers, soldiers, athletes.
- 10 Q Is the treatment required for classical heat
- 11 stroke than it is for exertional heat stroke?
- 12 A The basic premise is to get their
- temperature down as fast as possible, that's
- 14 consistent across both.
- 15 If I had a 85 to 90-year-old person who had
- 16 co-morbidities I don't know if we would recommend them
- 17 going into a cold water immersion tub because, you
- 18 know, that might be too much of a shock for that
- 19 person so we would maybe cool them by other methods
- 20 besides the cold water immersion.
- 21 An otherwise healthy person like a soldier
- 22 or an athlete or laborer who is like in their 20s we
- 23 would use cold water immersion because we would get
- their temp down as fast as humanly possible because
- 25 the most pressing thing is the hyperthermia, where the

- person who's 90 years old there are a lot of issues you're dealing with besides them just being hot.
- Q When you say co-morbidity factors give me an example of what you're talking about.
- A Well, people who are susceptible to that

 classic heat stroke, those elderly people, it's

 usually people who have like cardiovascular

 difficulties already, they might have diabetes, they

might have respiratory issues.

- So they already, it's the people who usually
 have some conditions already that are usually
 susceptible to that classic heat stroke.
- Q All right. We'll come back to that and talk about that in greater detail.
- 15 A Okay.

- Q When I review your CV there's a section
 under, it's entitled publications, and at least this
 version, Exhibit 39, I understand it's a little out of
 the date, but in this section it indicates there are
 last this section it indicates there are
- 21 A Yes. I think it's at 150 or 151 right now.
- Q Tell me about this, I note that there are various names many times with each of the respective publications, is that accurate?
- 25 A Yes.

- 1 Q Why is that?
- 2 A Those are the people that usually
- 3 contributed to the research study.
- 4 Q Okay.
- 5 A So it's usually a couple of professors and
- 6 usually some grad students that pulled off that
- 7 research study and it's a massive amount of time and
- 8 effort that goes into a project like that so it's
- 9 usually the people who are getting credit for the
- 10 effort.
- 11 Q What's the significance of the ordering of
- 12 the names?
- 13 A It's a good question. Usually the lead
- author in our work is usually the lead Ph.D. student
- who ran the project and did most of the writing. Then
- 16 usually their supervisor is either second or last,
- 17 last is sometimes a place of honor for the person
- 18 who's kind of the overall director, second is often
- 19 the supervisor of that Ph.D. student. Often then
- they'll be listed alphabetically a lot of times where
- 21 it's just everybody contributed and it's hard to tease
- 22 out who contributed the most.
- On some of the more prestigious kind of
- 24 position statements or consensus statements my name is
- 25 first because I was the lead author on, I don't know,

- 1 five or six or seven documents that have come out in
- the last years. One came out last summer so it's not
- in your hand right now, looking at preventing sudden
- 4 death in secondary schools.
- 5 Q So generally if your name is not first that
- 6 means that you were not the lead author on that
- 7 particular publication?
- 8 A Yes, I was considered a co-author.
- 9 Q Correct. Were then a lot of these
- 10 publications actually students, Ph.D. --
- 11 A They're my --
- 12 Q -- candidates?
- 13 A -- students.
- 14 Q Okay.
- 15 A So I'm supervising them.
- 16 Q All right.
- 17 A And I'm helping them land jobs down the road
- so being a lead author is very prestigious for them to
- 19 try to get a job.
- 20 Q And because of your assistance as a
- 21 professor overseeing their work then that gives you
- the honor of being able to be identified as one of the
- contributors to that publication?
- 24 A Well, it's usually I'm the one who usually
- 25 got the grant and usually had the idea for the study,

- I'm usually the one who spearheaded the whole 1 operation, but that Ph.D. student is often the one who 2
- did the kind of nitty gritty of some of that stuff. 3
- But don't the Ph.D. students, aren't they 4
- 5 usually encouraged to come up with their own topic?
- Α Well, we usually have global things that we 6 work on and then they'll pick out certain ideas within 7 projects that we're doing.
- 9 There's a section entitled grants under 10 consideration and that goes on for page after page.
- Well, grants under consideration is blank, Α 11 there's nothing there, it's probably grants with all 12 those others. 13
- 0 I see. 14

19

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- When I updated the resume at that moment 15 Α there wasn't one being considered at that moment. so 16 17 I'm sorry, I should have put NA underneath that 18 section.
 - Thanks for the clarification. So at least 0 under funded grants why are you including those in your CV?
- Usually people in the academic world put 22 Α 23 down the grants that they solicited and obtained, 24 that's very typical, it's kind of a key part of our tenure promotion process. 25

1 Q What's a grant?

A A grant would be like a research grant that
you would get funding to do a study or it might be a
service grant like you're providing educational
services maybe for the CDC or NIH or something like
that. It's what's providing funding to your operation
to, you know, promote the cause and promote the work
that you do.

Q There's many of these entries, if not most actually, indicate it starts out with the year and then it says principal investigator, what's a principal investigator?

A That's usually the person who's in charge of that particular study. So you might have a principal investigator who is in charge or a co-principal-investigator if there's a couple of people in charge, or you might be a co-investigator on a study where you're not in charge but you're involved with the study.

Q So with these grants then as your work are you going to, for example, the industry or the corporation or the government, whatever it might be, asking them to donate money to fund whatever the project is that you would like to work on?

A It could be one of three probably common

- 1 ways. One is they come to us and ask us to do a
- 2 project. Second, we could go to them with an idea of
- 3 which we think there might be a mutual interest.
- 4 Third might be an application process, it's just an
- 5 open application process and then they award to be
- 6 what they deem to be the most worthy.
- 7 Q Which of those three scenarios typically
- 8 occurs with your practice?
- 9 A In the last three or four years we've been
- 10 fortunate that we have a lot of people coming to us
- now because we have established an even greater
- reputation so it's probably a pretty good balance
- between those, between those three.
- Q Okay. I note in the CV there's various
- times there's a reference to NATA, what is that?
- 16 A NATA is the National Athletic Training, I'm
- 17 sorry, National Athletic Trainer's Association, that's
- the governing body for athletic trainers in our
- 19 country.
- 20 Q Okay. Continuing through the CV there's
- various professional presentations, various
- 22 categories, is the same generally true, that if, of
- what you indicated earlier, that if your name isn't
- 24 first that you were a contributor to that particular
- 25 work, that abstract, whatever it might be, but that

- the person listed first would have been the primary author or presenter?
- A If there are presentations it's usually the lead person that is the one actually standing up and doing the presentation, but the other co-authors are the ones who work together on the research study.
- Q So you may have provided information that
 then the person giving the physical presentation could
 use, rely on in their presentation?

- A Yes, or we work together on the research study and they're just the person -- there's one research study sometimes that could have four presentations and there might be four different lead people.
 - Q Okay. I notice just in the last page, hobby section, it says advocate of equal access for women in sport. Tell me about that.
- A Oh, just trying to make sure that women have the same opportunities like whether it be like, for instance, in college they didn't used to have woman's pole vaulting, they didn't used to have women's steeple chase, and up until 1972 the longest women's event in the Olympics was the 800 meters, they didn't even allow women to even run a mile. I don't know if you know back in the 1920s a bunch of women collapsed

- 1 following one of the mile races and they banned
- 2 anything longer than a mile. I have two daughters so
- 3 we work very hard with organizations to try promote
- 4 same opportunities.
- 5 Q I note from your CV that you have
- 6 involvement with the Korey Stringer Institute?
- 7 A Yes.
- 8 Q And your title is what?
- 9 A I'm the chief operating officer.
- 10 Q What is the Korey Stringer Institute?
- 11 A Okay. Korey Stringer was a football player
- for the Minnesota Vikings and he passed away in 2001,
- 13 August 1st, he had suffered a heat stroke during the
- second day of their training camp. And after he
- passed away his widow had numerous lawsuits that
- 16 ensued and I helped her as an expert witness through
- 17 some of those.
- 18 When she settled with the NFL, her and
- 19 Commissioner Goodell made a commitment to have a
- lasting legacy in Korey's name, and when they made
- 21 that decision to have that they both reached out to me
- 22 to ask if we would be interested in hosting that
- institute at the University of Connecticut.
- 24 And obviously that was a big honor and we
- 25 were interested in doing that so we've, it's a

phenomenal opportunity for me professionally to have this forum in terms of education and research and something to be able to pursue some of the things to enhance safety for soldiers and laborers and athletes.

Q What percentage of your time is spent with the Korey Stringer Institute versus the other work that do you just with the University the Connecticut?

A That's a good question. The fact of the matter is everything we do at the Korey Stringer

Institute I was doing before the Korey Stringer

Institute existed because I mean our main focus is research, education, policy changes, or advocating for changes and like mass media outreach so we can get good information out to people, all of those things I was doing because KSI ever existed.

So this just gave us a greater vehicle to make it takes place. I mean in a sense 100 of my work is professor slash Korey Stringer Institute, you can't, they're never really separated because even all the grad students I have and the grad student classes I have we're teaching the stuff that is the work of the Korey Stringer Institute.

Some of the titles of my classes are entitled preventing sudden death in sport, exertional heat stroke, legal issues of sudden death, you know,

- 1 so there are lot of issues that we deal with.
- 2 Q Is your position with the Korey Stringer
- 3 Institute, is that a paid position?
- 4 A No.
- 5 Q Okay.
- A I receive 100 percent of my salary from the
 state as a professor. So the great benefit of the
 Korey Stringer Institute is it allows funding for the
 grad students and employees who work at KSI to promote
- 10 the mission of KSI and really promote overall goals of
- 11 enhancing safety.
- 12 Q That's the primary purpose of that Korey
- 13 Stringer Institute here today?
- 14 A Our big theme is preventing sudden death in
- sport, like trying to have physical activity happen in
- 16 a safe and productive manner.
- 17 MR. COX: Do you think you could move the
- speaker a little closer? I'm having a little
- 19 trouble picking you up.
- THE WITNESS: Sure.
- MR. SCHMITT: Is this phone even on?
- THE COURT REPORTER: No, it was a backup
- in case Skype didn't work.
- MR. SCHMITT: Okay.

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1 BY MR. SCHMITT:
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- Q How old are you, sir?
- 3 A Forty-five.
- 4 Q All right. Have you spent almost your
- 5 entire career here in connection with the University
- of Connecticut in some capacity?
- 7 A Since 1993 until now so a little over 20
- years. I've been here all of those 20 years except
- 9 for two years I was a professor down in Georgia after
- I got my Ph.D. I was a Ph.D. student here from '93 to
- '97, professor down in Georgia until '99 and then
- 12 since that date I've been here.
- 13 Q Have you ever been employed by the Federal
- 14 Railroad Administration, the FRA?
- 15 A I have not.
- 16 Q Have you ever been employed by OSHA?
- 17 A I have not.
- 18 Q Have you ever been employed by any railroad?
- 19 A No.
- 20 Q Have you ever worked in the rail industry in
- any respect?
- 22 A No.
- Q Have you ever been, for example, to a rail
- 24 yard?
- 25 A I might have been when I was younger but not

- in relation to like what I know now, so I don't want
- to, you know, it's a tough answer because I think I
- 3 might have been when I was kid so I don't want to give
- 4 an inaccurate answer. Related to this topic and my
- 5 expertise, I would say no.
- 6 Q But other than perhaps as a kid traveling
- 7 through a rail yard that's the extent of your physical
- 8 presence in a rail yard?
- 9 A Yes.
- 10 Q Have you ever physically seen equipment and
- 11 machines that are used to install track?
- 12 A Yes, on this case and in previous cases
- people have sent me pictures.
- Q So the extent of your exposure --
- 15 A I'm sorry, and some video.
- 16 Q So the extent of your exposure to the
- machines would be simply by looking at photos or
- 18 videos, not physical presence?
- 19 A Yes.
- 20 Q So you've never sat for an example on an
- anchor applicator machine?
- 22 A I have not.
- Q You mentioned that in some prior, this case
- and some prior cases that people may have sent you
- 25 photos or videos, my question is how many cases have

- you been involved in that dealt with some type of 1 railroad related issue? 2 Is it okay if I look here? Α 3 Absolutely. 4 Q 5 It's either the third or the fourth case. For the record what you're looking at is 6 your report? 7 Α Yes. 8 9 Which is dated November 30, 2013? Q 10 Α Yes. MR. SCHMITT: What we'll do is we'll go 11 ahead and mark that as Exhibit 40. 12 (Defendant's Exhibit 40 marked for 13 Identification.) 14 Α Just if you want to make a note number seven 15 and number eight in this report were both train 16 related cases. 17 18 BY MR. SCHMITT: 19 We're looking on page --Q 20 Α Nine. -- of Exhibit 40? 21 0 22 Α Yes.
- Q Okay.

 A Number 11 also, that one I worked for the defense on, the other two were plaintiff.

- 1 Q So seven, eight and 11?
- 2 A Yes.
- Q Okay.
- 4 A Specific to a train employee.
- 5 Q Yes.
- A And the current case. So I was right, it
- 7 was three previous.
- 8 Q Seven involved a train welder with the CSX
- 9 Railroad?
- 10 A Yes.
- 11 Q You said that you were retained by the
- 12 plaintiff?
- 13 A Yes.
- Q What happened just generally in that case?
- 15 A I honestly don't remember them. He was, I
- 16 know he was working extensively outside and I think on
- one day he had some difficulty and then on the next
- 18 day he suffered a heat stroke.
- 19 Q When we use the term heat stroke, stroke is
- 20 a term of significance, correct?
- 21 A Yes.
- Q All right. A heat stroke is something
- different than, for example, a heat illness which I
- see you have listed as item number eight?
- 25 A Yes.

- 1 0 Is heat stroke much more severe than a heat 2 illness? Well, a heat illness could include heat 3 Α stroke but a heat stroke is much more serious. 4 5 illness is a family of conditions, potential conditions. 6 All right. Did you give a deposition with 7 Q the CSX case? 8 9 It says here official report only so that 10 one never went, that was settled before my deposition was needed. 11 Do you still have that report? 12 Q I do believe that I definitely would. 13 Let's see item eight was a railroad 14 conductor who suffered a heat illness, do you recall 15 what occurred in that case? 16 I honestly don't remember great detail on 17 Α 18 some of these, it's been a few years right now and I honestly didn't brush on them at all. 19 I do remember him being a conductor and I 20 remember there being difficulty for him on his run 21 that day where he actually had to get out and do a lot 22
- Q Do you know as a conductor what he was, you

caused him to have some difficulty that day.

of manual work that he typically didn't do and it

23

- said he was running in and out, running in and out of
- 2 what?
- 3 A He was having to get out of the train a lot
- 4 of times to deal with stuff that was ahead on the
- track that he typically wasn't doing but I guess it
- 6 was a unique day.
- 7 Q You gave a deposition in that case?
- 8 A Yes.
- 9 Q Do you still have that deposition?
- 10 A Absolutely.
- 11 Q Then last item was number 11 and tell me
- 12 about that one.
- 13 A I honestly have to double check that case.
- 14 It was definitely a laborer but I don't remember the
- 15 specifics of the case.
- I do know it was for the defense and the
- 17 defense had asked me if they thought it was a heat
- 18 stroke or not, and that was my level of involvement
- 19 because I did not think it was a heat stroke in that
- 20 particular case.
- 21 Q So you were only asked to render an issue
- about diagnosis of the condition?
- 23 A Yes, well, they wanted me to consider what
- were the possible conditions this person might have
- 25 been suffering from and what was likelihood that it

- 1 was some of these different ones because I think the
- 2 plaintiff was making the complaint that he was sure it
- 3 was heat stroke but we didn't have compelling evidence
- 4 that it was a heat stroke.
- 5 Q It said that you assisted, is this a law
- 6 firm?
- 7 A Yes.
- Q Okay.
- 9 A I tried to include at least the lawyer's
- 10 names or the law firm for each of them.
- 11 Q Okay.
- 12 A So at least you could always Google them and
- 13 find them.
- 14 Q You didn't give a report in that case?
- 15 A No, it says opinion provided, so I
- definitely submitted something.
- 17 Q No deposition though?
- 18 A Correct.
- 19 Q Do you know or are you certain sitting here
- 20 today that that workers' compensation case involved in
- 21 a railroad?
- 22 A I'm not 100 percent sure.
- Q Okay.
- 24 A I remember someone being, I can't remember
- 25 if it was a rail yard or someone was I believe loading

- and unloading supplies and I'm just not positive where the setting was.
- 3 Q Okay. With item number seven was the report
- 4 that you prepared something that was then produced to
- 5 the attorney, the plaintiff's attorney that retained
- 6 you that then was used in the lawsuit itself?
- 7 A I'm assuming that they used it in the
- 8 process of trying to obtain a settlement, yes.
- 9 Q Okay. The deposition you said in item
- 10 eight, that's readily available to you?
- 11 A Yes. If it's not to me I'm sure the lawyer
- 12 could get it to me.
- Q Okay.
- 14 A I'm assuming in most cases they usually send
- me the PDF of the deposition after, especially more in
- 16 the recent years.
- 17 Q Okay. What I would like you to do if you
- 18 could email a copy, look at your records and email a
- 19 copy of that deposition to Mr. Cox and then I would
- 20 ask that he forward that to me.
- 21 A Sure. Item eight deposition.
- 22 MR. COX: That's the deposition in which
- 23 case?
- THE WITNESS: Trumain Moorer case,
- 25 M-o-o-r-e-r. It was Trumain Moorer versus

- 1 Norfolk Southern Railroad Company. It's number
- eight on my list.
- 3 MR. COX: Okay.
- 4 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 5 Q If the report that you used in item number
- 6 seven that we discussed, if that was produced, in
- other words, by that plaintiff's lawyer to the other
- 8 side, in other words, used by both parties, if it
- 9 wasn't just simply held only by the plaintiff I would
- 10 also like you to forward a copy of that to Jim Cox and
- 11 ask that that be produced.
- 12 A Sure.
- MR. COX: I will do that.
- 14 A Number seven. I'm really 99 percent sure
- they produced that to the other side because I
- 16 remember discussions after.
- 17 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 18 Q All right. Same with item 11.
- 19 A This one I'm not positive about.
- 20 Q Okay. Can you tell me what -- strike that.
- 21 Before we get to that your CV lists,
- itemizes 19 cases that you've worked on as an expert,
- item number 20 which is this case and then some other
- 24 cases that are just beginning. Does then exhibit --
- 25 A You said CV, do you mean my opinion?

- 1 Q Yes, thank you for clarifying. Bad 2 question. Let me start over.
- Your report, Exhibit 40, does the Exhibit 40

 didentify all of the cases that you have worked on as a

 retained expert witness in litigation?
- 6 A Up through November 30th.
- 7 Q Yes.

21

- A So there are other cases that have, you

 know, obviously progressed in the last five or six

 months and that's why I tried to, you know, these are

 ones that were really like in the beginning and I

 wasn't even sure if I was going to be moving forward

 with helping.
- 14 So there's probably one or two others that
 15 it looks more likely I'm going to be helping with them
 16 right now. I don't think -- none of them are train
 17 situations. One is a police officer at an academy.
 18 One is a soldier. Same law firm actually and it's
 19 both working for the defense in both of those cases.
 - Q So currently to the present date you've been involved as a retained expert in litigation matters around 27, 28 times?
- 23 A Well, I think it's actually -- six were, a
 24 lot of people seek out me, see if I'm interested in
 25 helping but I don't always pick up every case that I'm

- asked to help with so I would move that to 22 or 23 right now that I could say for sure.
- Q Okay. Explain to me then, you said that
 there are some cases where you may be consulted but
 you don't, I think you used the term pick up, tell me
 what you mean.

A A lot of it has to do with time reasons. At the University of Connecticut I'm allowed one consulting day per week during the academic year, so I have those 30 days to work with during the academic years and then I have some more days potentially in the summer.

So I have to get consulting approval for any cases I work with. So I have to make a very accurate guess of what my time investment will be on a case that I decide to work with. So if I'm not able to do it I might sometimes suggest other people who could assist whoever contacted me.

And also I sometimes look into the, after I get more information, a lot of times, a lot, there's probably literally another 40 to 50 cases that I don't list here that people don't end up pursuing litigation because they sought out my opinion and a lawyer will just run things by me like an hour or two on the phone and say is this worth it, so I think they're even

- considering do they accept this client, you know, is this a case worth picking up.
- So I will talk them through it, like is this
 something, a legitimate case or not and, you know,
 obviously if they don't pursue it, you know, you don't
 see it on this list here and I don't charge that
 person for that hour or two of my time that I'm kind
 of just giving my informal time.

- Q With this consulting work then that you do you indicated that you have to get approval, tell me what percentage of your time is spent work as a consultant expert witness.
- A It also, just so you know, my consulting approvals don't only include cases, like I also have to get consulting approval if I serve as an adviser to a corporation or if I go give a presentation somewhere and get paid so there's a lot of different things that UConn approves for consulting, anything that's outside my normal job.

So of my consulting work I would say about half of it is legal cases and about half is work that I might do, for instance, if I serve on a board of advisers for a company, or a lot of time like a company will ask for my opinion on products or innovation.

But so the bottom line, it probably works 1 out to be between 15 and 20 days a year I work on 2 legal cases. Is that what you were looking for? 3 It is. 4 Q 5 Okay. They might not be full days but it Α just gives you an idea. 6 7 Q So 15 to 20 out of the 365 day year? Α Yes. 8 9 0 Okay. The fees that you charge for 10 consulting work in legal related matters are \$400 per hour? 11 12 Α Yes. Then if you, for example, come to Nebraska 13 to testify would you be charging also then for your 14 travel expenses obviously? 15 Α Yes. 16 17 Okay. Are the fees that you earn as a 18 consultant, are those fees then that would go to you 19 directly rather than to the University of Connecticut? Yes, that goes to me personally. 20 Α Okay. Of the cases that you've been 21 0 involved as a legal expert or -- strike that. 22 23 Of the cases where you've worked as an

expert witness retained consultant in a legal related

matter, litigation, what percentage is for the

24

- 1 plaintiff or employee versus the defendant?
- 2 A That's a good question. I'm frequently
- 3 asked that question. I think I've worked for the
- 4 defense now on five cases. Do you want me to point
- 5 those out to you?
- 6 Q Sure.
- 7 A It would be number two.
- 8 Q And you're looking at Exhibit 40?
- 9 A Yes.
- 10 Q Okay.
- 11 A Number 11. What you might consider labeling
- 12 21 and 22 because I just told you there's a case for a
- soldier and a case for a police academy training that
- 14 took place. So that is up to four and --
- 15 Q In those last two you were retained by the
- 16 employer?
- 17 A Yes.
- 18 Q Okay.
- 19 A It was, to be honest just so you know, it
- 20 was actually a company that makes a supplement and
- they're blaming the supplement on the heat illness.
- That's one of the parties that's being sued in that
- case.
- Q Okay.
- 25 A So not just the only one.

- 1 Q All right.
- 2 A So that's four right there and there might
- 3 be one other new case that I'm failing to think of
- 4 right now.
- 5 Q Have you ever been retained by Jim Cox
- 6 before this case or his law firm, Brent Coon and
- 7 Associates?
- 8 A Never, this is the first time.
- 9 Do you know how Mr. Cox became aware of the
- 10 services that you're providing in this case?
- 11 A Yes. I actually brought it because I'm also
- 12 always asked this question, when I started the
- 13 relationship.
- On May 31st, 2013 I received an email from
- Jim and he had said he had a friend named John Moss
- 16 who was the lawyer out of Atlanta, and if you look on
- 17 my opinion which I think you said was Exhibit 40 he's
- the lawyer that I worked with on case number eight.
- 19 So that's the connection.
- 20 Q Okay. That the first contact that you had
- with Mr. Cox was the email of May 21, 2013?
- 22 A May 31st.
- 23 Q Oh, May 31st?
- 24 A Yes.
- Q What other communications have you had with

- 1 Mr. Cox in written form?
- 2 A I have a few emails here, most of them are
- 3 kind of procedural like, let me see, you know, things
- 4 like this when someone sends me something that I'm
- 5 supposed to review I get like an official letter.
- 6 Q What you just handed me is a letter to you
- 7 dated February 10, 2014 from Mr. Cox's law firm
- 8 enclosing the report of James V. Shea, Jr.? Right?
- 9 A Yes. These are just examples since you're
- 10 asking but like he was giving me an update of when the
- deposition might be, when my official opinion might be
- 12 due.
- I had asked if I could have a slight
- extension possibly on when the opinion be due because
- it was right at the end of the semester and I think he
- 16 have contacted you about that.
- 17 Q He did.
- 18 A And then I also had inquired I think when he
- 19 knew when the trial might be and I told him dates I
- 20 would be on vacation.
- 21 Q Could I just take a look at all of these.
- You've identified various written communications from
- 23 Mr. Cox's office. If you want to just hand me that
- other one that you mentioned too.
- 25 A Sure (handing).

- Q And you brought with you here today your entire work file?
- A I did. I also brought my computer because some of it is not printed out and they're just PDFs.
- 5 Q What are the PDFs that would be on your 6 computer?
 - A I did, I tried to be exhaustive here with everything that I have so I don't necessarily have to find any for you. There are some additional items since November 30th that I did bring with me so I can at least show you but this is exhaustive up to November 30th.
 - Q Okay. For our record, so you're looking at your report, Exhibit 40, page one identifies items A through T and those are first of all up through the date of that report the items that you looked at?
- 17 A Yes.

- Q So when you reference documents on your computer that are in PDF, are the only PDF documents on that computer documents that are identified here in Exhibit 40?
 - A I am going to double check that in a break but I believe everything I have since then I either printed out or brought with me, but if something was maybe enormously long I may not have printed it out.

- 1 Q During a break you can feel free to take a
- 2 look at that and we'll confirm that.
- 3 And then you said since your report you
- 4 received additional items, what additional items have
- 5 you received?
- 6 A So there's a printout of an OSHA Technical
- 7 Manual.
- 8 Q Okay. For the record this is entitled OSHA
- 9 Technical Manual (OTM), Section III, Chapter 4, is
- 10 that right?
- 11 A Yes.
- 12 Q Okay. Who provided this to you?
- 13 A That was Jim Cox.
- 14 Q And the date, at least the print date on it
- is 2/25 of 2014 which was only, well, less than a week
- 16 ago?
- 17 A Yes.
- 18 Q Why do you understand you were provided with
- 19 this document?
- 20 A I had asked for some information regarding
- if we knew of any OSHA standards just for general
- 22 recommendations.
- Q So this was research that Mr. Cox did for
- you to find these OSHA standards to --
- 25 A I had done some Googling myself, I wanted to

- 1 see if they meshed up but that was something he shared
- with me after we had the discussion.
- 3 Q What other documents --
- 4 A It was the same day I got this one just so
- 5 you know.
- 6 Q So the same day you received the OSHA
- 7 Technical Manual, you handed me also then a single
- 8 page entitled Appendix C ACGIH Threshold Limit Values
- 9 for Hot Environments, correct?
- 10 A Yes.
- 11 Q That was provided to you again by Mr. Cox?
- 12 A Yes.
- 13 Q All right. Any other documents that you
- 14 have been provided or reviewed in connection with your
- work in this case that we have not discussed?
- 16 A Yes. There are, I'm quessing it was an
- 17 email discussion, the two people who came to pick up
- Jared the day after he had the condition, so one is
- 19 Brandon Peppers and one is Jared's wife. I got those
- 20 yesterday, two days ago I think.
- 21 Q So you've handed me a four page document
- that indicates it's from a Brandon Peppers to Donna
- 23 Baker?
- 24 A That's the first two pages, and then the
- 25 next two are from Jared's wife.

```
It says from Priscilla Whitt to Donna Baker?
 1
             0
             Α
                  Yes.
 2
                     MR. SCHMITT: Okay. Here's what I would
 3
             like to do so that we keep track of what we're
 4
             looking at.
 5
                      This last item, this question and answer
 6
             session, these four pages, I'm going to mark as
 7
             Exhibit 41.
 8
 9
                (Defendant's Exhibit 41 marked for
10
        Identification.)
                     MR. COX: Are you marking both statements
11
             individually?
12
                     MR. SCHMITT: They were all stapled
13
             together as one document, Jim, as four pages.
14
             Α
                  They were two different emails. Sorry about
15
        that. I did that for my own convenience.
16
                (Defendant's Exhibit 42 marked for
17
18
        Identification.)
                     MR. SCHMITT: Okay. So we've marked as
19
             Exhibit 41 the document from Brandon Peppers to
20
             Donna Baker dated February 27, 2014, and as
21
             Exhibit 42 is the February 27, 2014 document from
22
23
             Priscilla Whitt to Donna Baker.
24
     BY MR. SCHMITT:
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25 Q Then let's just continue with marking these

- documents that you stated that the OSHA Technical
- 2 Manual and Appendix C were sent to you at the same
- 3 time on February 25?
- 4 A Yes.
- 5 MR. SCHMITT: I will mark the OSHA
- 6 Technical Manual as Exhibit 43, and the
- 7 Appendix C ACGIH Threshold Limit Values as
- 8 Exhibit 44.
- 9 (Defendant's Exhibits 43 and 44 marked for
- 10 Identification.)
- 11 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 12 Q Then finally then there was a compilation of
- communications with Mr. Cox starting with the May 31,
- 14 2013 email and then some follow up?
- 15 A There's also this one, that is just to tell
- me when my deposition was going to be.
- 17 Q Any other communications, written
- communications, with Mr. Cox or anyone from his
- 19 office?
- 20 A I don't think so, well, just like I think
- 21 this was like a contract when I first started.
- Q Okay.
- 23 A This is where some of the hard copy stuff
- came but this is still predated so like this should
- all be on my opinion.

- 1 I tried to save these different letters. If
- 2 it's a nice colorful letterhead like that that means
- 3 it came in the mail and it wasn't an email.
- 4 Q Okay.
- 5 A These are three others but they all predated
- 6 the thing again so I do believe my information is
- 7 complete.
- MR. COX: Doug, keep your voice up.
- 9 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. Okay.
- 10 A This one is postdated and that I believe was
- 11 the opinions which I'm about to give you but I still
- 12 have other information to share with you.
- 13 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 14 Q Okay.
- 15 A This is a packet of all the opinions, so my
- 16 opinion, Fran O'Connor and another railroad expert's
- 17 opinion.
- 18 Q Okay. Let me just stop you for just a
- 19 second. You've handed me plaintiff's rule 26A2
- 20 disclosures in the Jared Whitt case and you mentioned
- some opinions from some other individuals?
- 22 A Well, the people, I can't remember his name.
- 23 Gaballa?
- 24 Q Yes.
- 25 A It was Gaballa, and then those two pages,

- then that would include O'Connor's opinion, Fran
- O'Connor, and my opinion is at the end so there's
- 3 three opinions in here.
- 4 Q Anything else that you looked at, reviewed
- or relied on in connection with this case?
- 6 A I got an expert report from Shea Solutions.
- 7 Q Dated February 10 of 2014?
- 8 A Yes.
- 9 Q Okay.
- 10 A Then these two items was Jim's office, they
- 11 had put together like a little overview of some of the
- microenvironment issues based on different people's
- thoughts, and then this was kind of like a little flow
- of the day.
- 15 Q Okay. So this microenvironment heat index
- 16 document, it's two pages, and this was prepared by
- 17 Mr. Cox?
- 18 A Use this one, this was updated a little
- 19 more.
- 20 Q So there were two versions of this document?
- 21 A Yes.
- Q One dated February 24, 2014 and one dated
- 23 February 27, 2014?
- 24 A Yes.
- 25 Q Both were sent to you prepared by Mr. Cox or

```
someone at his office?
 1
 2
             Α
                  Yes.
                     MR. SCHMITT: I'm going to mark both of
 3
             those documents together as Exhibit 45.
 4
 5
                (Defendant's Exhibit 45 marked for
        Identification.)
 6
 7
     BY MR. SCHMITT:
                  There is a 14 page document entitled Whitt
             0
 8
 9
        versus Union Pacific Railroad Company that appears as
10
        though it's some type of maybe a medical or a
        chronology, is that right?
11
                  That's the best word.
12
             Α
                  That was again prepared by Mr. Cox and sent
13
             Q
        to you?
14
             Α
                  These are my only copies of these so we're
15
        going to need to make photocopies of some of these.
16
                  That's fine. It's just because for the
17
             Q
18
        record we need to make sure we identify what it is
19
        that you've reviewed and you've relied on.
                     MR. SCHMITT: So this chronology I'm
20
             marking as Exhibit 46.
21
                (Defendant's Exhibit 46 marked for
22
23
        Identification.)
24
                  I think that's it. Just let me check my
```

computer.

- MR. COX: Dave, so I'm clear, 45 is 1 microenvironment and 46 is the chron? 2 MR. SCHMITT: Yes. 3 I think the only thing we have left are 4 these two, let me pull them up for you -- these two 5 pictures were also sent to me to maybe show you 6 equipment that he would be wearing. 7 BY MR. SCHMITT: 8 9 0 Okay. 10 MR. COX: Voice up, please. THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. 11 I had received two pictures of Jared wearing 12 Α head gear, that protective gear that he would be 13 wearing while he was working, one with an example of 14 the face shield up and one with the face shield down. 15 BY MR. SCHMITT: 16 17 When did you receive those two pictures? Q Two days ago. 18 Α 19 MR. SCHMITT: What I would ask, Jim, you're familiar with the two photographs, 20 obviously you provided them to Dr. Casa, could 21 you forward those to me, please? 22 23 MR. COX: They're coming in in a
- MR. SCHMITT: Okay.

disclosure.

- But I think we did well. I think that's 1 Α 2 what I have. MR. SCHMITT: There are these email or 3 letter communications we'll just mark these all 4 together as Exhibit 47. 5 (Defendant's Exhibit 47 marked for 6 Identification.) 7 MR. SCHMITT: The exhibit sticker will be 8 placed on the first communication of May 31, 9 10 2013. THE WITNESS: That's what exhibit, Dave? 11 MR. SCHMITT: 47. 12 BY MR. SCHMITT: 13 And then the last one being Exhibit 48 which 14 is the contract, what you referred to as the contract 15 when you were retained as an expert in regards to this 16 17 case, correct? 18 Α Yes. MR. SCHMITT: That will be Exhibit 48. 19 (Defendant's Exhibit 48 marked for 20 Identification.) 21 BY MR. SCHMITT: 22 23 Okay. I'll put these documents all back in
- front of you. Please feel free to refer to any of
 them throughout your deposition to refresh your memory

- 1 or otherwise.
- 2 My question is first of all in, you authored
- a report which is Exhibit 40, did Exhibit 40 at the
- 4 time it was authored, November 30, 2013, contain all
- of your opinions and all reasons and bases for your
- 6 opinions?
- 7 A To the best of my ability everything I had
- 8 received up to that point is included on page one.
- 9 Q My question though is more specific, did at
- 10 the time you authored Exhibit 40, did it contain all
- of your opinions and all of the bases and reasons for
- 12 your opinions as of that point?
- 13 A Up to that point, yes.
- Q My question is since that time, you've now
- 15 received some additional information and documents
- 16 that we just discussed?
- 17 A Yes.
- 18 Q Have your opinions or any reasons or bases
- for your opinions changed from what you've stated in
- your original report dated November 30 of 2013?
- 21 A Nothing has changed. Some of my thoughts
- 22 became more solidified with the some of the supportive
- 23 materials.
- 24 Q Can you tell me which of your thoughts
- 25 became more solidified?

- 1 A Is it okay if I grab my opinion here?
- Q Yes.

- A Probably I mean two primary ones: One is I

 feel more certain now that he definitely suffered an

 exertional heat stroke; and, second, having to do with

 the lack of efforts to make modifications related to

 the work to rest rations and environmental conditions.
 - Q You said the last one was efforts to change?
- 9 A To modify the work to rest ratio based on the environmental conditions.
- 11 Q So of those two items that have now become
 12 more solidified which is the term that you used, let's
 13 talk about each in turn.
- What is it that led your opinion to become
 more solidified that Mr. Whitt suffered an exertional
 heat stroke based on the information you reviewed?
- 17 A Do you mind if I take a one second bathroom break?
- 19 Q Let's take a five minute break.
- 20 (Recess)
- MR. SCHMITT: Back on the record.
- 22 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- Q Before we broke you were going to tell me
 that you reviewed some additional documents that made
 you more certain that Mr. Whitt suffered an exertional

- 1 heat stroke. What specific additional information did
- 2 you receive that helped you become more certain in
- 3 that regard?
- 4 A The one thing I was kind of lacking up to
- 5 this point was information on, specific information of
- 6 how Jared was feeling later the next day or the
- 7 ensuing days, so -- I just can't remember his name
- 8 right now so I apologize, let me find the document,
- 9 here it is.
- 10 So I had gotten information from Priscilla
- 11 Whitt and Brandon Peppers that gave a bigger glimpse
- into Jared's condition on the Friday I guess it was
- and then the ensuing days after they drove him home
- 14 and maybe the week after.
- 15 And it kind of felt more in line now with
- 16 the information from Wiesen who saw him immediately
- 17 while he was in the cooling tent and then you keep
- 18 carrying it back further and it makes a lot more sense
- 19 that he was suffering exertional heat stroke, there's
- 20 a lot of consistency.
- 21 Q So the additional information you're relying
- on are Exhibits 41 and 42 which were the question and
- answers that were sent to you by Mr. Cox's office a
- 24 couple of days ago?
- 25 A Yes. In fact I had previously thought he

- had a heat stroke and this, like I said, it was
 solidified with some of my thought process.
- Q Okay. What was it specifically about what

 Mr. Whitt was experiencing during the week or so after

 the incident that is contained in Exhibits 41 and 42

 that supports your opinion or that solidifies it?
 - A Someone who suffered heat exhaustion is not struggling the next day and ensuring days after. Heat exhaustion patients recover very quickly. They don't have what we consider like a longer term sequela.
 - So as stated in these pages here Jared was struggling quite a bit for the days after whether it be dizziness --
 - Q That was my next question, what were the sequela that he was suffering from that supports your opinion?
 - A Had gastrointestinal issues where he couldn't really eat much, extreme heat intolerance --
 - 0 Intolerance?

8

9

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11

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- 20 A Intolerance, yes. Lightheadedness, weakness 21 throughout his whole body, achy, things like that.
- 22 Q Those sequela will be only be experienced by 23 someone during the days or week after the incident of 24 someone who suffers a heat stroke?
- 25 A Yes. Someone who suffers heat exhaustion

- 1 would usually not have these kinds of, one, the
- length, and, two, the severity, and, three, the array
- of these kind of responses.
- 4 Q So someone that suffers heat exhaustion
- though can suffer some of those sequela?
- 6 A To give you an example, someone who has heat
- 7 exhaustion very, assuming after they have heat
- 8 exhaustion that they're rehydrated and given a chance
- 9 to rest in almost all cases that person can resume
- 10 activity the next day.
- 11 Q So you say almost all so not all --
- 12 A Heat exhaustion.
- 13 Q Okay.
- 14 A I mentioned not all because sometimes if
- someone, for instance, is not rehydrated at all or is
- 16 not given a chance to rest they might need a little
- more time than one day.
- But they wouldn't still suffer all of these
- 19 like inability to eat, exercise, heat intolerance, for
- instance, would never happen in a heat exhaustion
- case.
- Q Okay. What else would never happen in a
- 23 heat exhaustion case out of the sequela that Mr. --
- 24 A Gastrointestinal issues where I suppose he
- couldn't have any kind of substantial meals or normal

- 1 kind of meals. The dizziness.
- Q Would never occur with someone with heat
- 3 exhaustion post incident?
- A Beyond that like first day or so, that's
- 5 something they might suffer acutely from and maybe for
- 6 a few hours after.
- 7 Q When you say first day or so define or so.
- 8 A Well, I mean, usually the remainder of that
- 9 day the condition takes place and maybe onto the next
- 10 day.
- 11 Q That's the extent that a person that
- 12 suffered heat exhaustion would experience dizziness?
- 13 A Yes.
- Q So a person that would suffer dizziness, for
- example, in your opinion that continued two, three,
- 16 four days later would be then indicative of a heat
- 17 stroke?
- 18 A Yes.
- 19 Q Okay.
- 20 A Especially taken collectively with all of
- 21 the things he was feeling.
- 22 Q Any of the other sequela that Mr. Whitt
- 23 experienced that would only be experienced by someone
- 24 who suffers a heat stroke?
- 25 A Not that I recall right at this second right

- 1 now. The things that I think I also maybe had a
- 2 better chance to look more closely at Wiesen who I
- 3 mentioned earlier, his testimony, especially in the, I
- 4 want to say the one to two hour range after the
- 5 condition presented itself when he was back at that
- 6 cooling station when he was noted to be out of it,
- 7 only using single syllable words, and being extremely
- 8 exhausted, and having numbness and tingling in his
- 9 arms and legs, and contractures in his arms and then
- 10 especially so in his left arm.
- These things don't happen when someone has
- 12 heat exhaustion. People who have heat exhaustion can
- have a completely normal conversation in the couple of
- hours after a condition presents itself. A heat
- exhaustion patient is fine ten or 15 minutes after
- 16 they first start getting treated.
- 17 They may be really tired but they're not in
- any way incapacitated from a central nervous system
- 19 capacity, the ability to process thoughts and
- 20 communicate.
- 21 Q And the deposition testimony of Mr. Wiesen,
- he was one of Mr. Whitt's co-workers?
- A He was. Wiesen is someone who came into the
- 24 cooling station in a time frame while Jared was being
- 25 taken care of there.

- 1 Q The things that you mentioned that
 2 Mr. Wiesen testified that Jared was reporting
 3 including numbness and tingling in the legs I think is
 4 the one of the items, correct?
- 5 A Arms and legs.

10

11

- Q Arms and legs. Is numbness and tingling in the arms and legs, is that a sign or symptom of someone who sufferers a heat stroke?
 - A Yes. Heat stroke is a very unique condition that you can have many different signs and symptoms because when someone is overheated different parts of the body could be affected by the hyperthermia.
- So for some people it could the liver is

 affected, some the kidneys, some the muscles, some the

 nervous system, some the brain, some the heart.
- So it can be multifaceted and so, you know, 16 17 in this particular case we'd see like his GI system 18 was affected so you have stomach and intestines. His central nervous system was affected from the 19 perspective of heat intolerance which is regulated by 20 the hypothalamus. Could be the dizziness which could 21 have been some vestibular issues there. His extreme 22 23 weakness, like you don't know if there might have been some muscular issues, for instance, rhabdo, which is a 24 fancy term, but it's r-h-a-b-d-o, it has a longer back 25

- 1 part of it, which we don't have to worry about right
- 2 now.
- Those are examples of some of the parts of
- 4 Jared that might have been influenced by the
- 5 hyperthermia.
- 6 Q Continuing with just then the source of the
- 7 information to support your opinion that he suffered
- 8 the exertional heat stroke, have you reviewed any of
- 9 the deposition testimony of the other various
- 10 co-workers that were also present including
- immediately after the scene or after the incident when
- 12 Mr. Whitt was found sitting on the ground?
- 13 A Yes, yes, that's where it all is very
- consistent. So the ones I think would be most
- 15 relevant would be David Birt and Joe Linford.
- 16 So the Birt and Linford, the Wiesen one that
- was mentioned earlier, and then the contributions from
- 18 Priscilla Whitt and Brandon Peppers forms a very
- 19 consistent story that this was an exertional heat
- 20 stroke from time of incident to, you know, the week
- 21 after the incident.
- Q Is it significant to you that multiple
- co-workers, in fact, I think virtually everybody
- 24 except perhaps Mr. Wiesen making some inferential
- 25 allusion to it but have all testified that from their

personal observations Mr. Whitt was not disoriented or confused. Was that significant in your own opinions?

A I didn't get that impression from Joe
Linford. Jared communicated to Joe that he was out of
it and that he was not doing well and Linford made
such an extraordinary effort to lower him down to the
ground so that he was protected just in case maybe he
fainted.

And in Jared's own testimony he says how he, I don't know if he used the word goofy or he was out of it, that there might have been a stretch of time from when they helped to carry him when he was down into the truck, that there might have been ten or 15 minutes that he doesn't really recall.

Q Do you consider it significant that other witnesses have testified that specifically from their personal observations of Mr. Whitt that he was not confused, that he was coherent, conversant?

A I didn't get that impression from Birt or
Linford that he was his normal self at this point from
a cognitive perspective.

Q Are you aware that other witnesses have, and if you're not that's fine, but are you aware whether or not other witnesses have testified that from their personal observations Mr. Whitt was not confused?

- 1 MR. COX: Objection to form and
 2 foundation.
 3 A There may have been people that said that.
 4 I'm not sure if they had enough contact with him to
 5 really get a good sense of that.
 6 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- Q So you don't know what contact they had if you're not familiar --
- 9 A Well, the people that I feel had a lot of
 10 contact with him being Birt and Linford and Wiesen who
 11 actually spent significant time with him had enough
 12 worry, I mean, you think of Birt, the second he is
 13 working with him he has enough concern that he wants
 14 to drive him to hospital.
- Q What did Mr. Birt testify to as to why he wanted to take --
- 17 A I think his two biggest concerns were that
 18 he was suffering a heat illness and that he may have
 19 some prodromal, signs and symptoms of potentially
 20 having a heart attack or a heart issue because he had
 21 reported numbness and tingling in his extremities
 22 especially his left arm.
- So he, Birt is gathering this information together, here is a guy who is laying down in the heat, is getting assisted to a vehicle after, you

- 1 know, being in the heat and then is in this vehicle 2 and then communicating that he has numbness and
- 3 tingling.
- 4 So he, Birt had said that he thought heart
- 5 might be connected or a result of a heat stroke and he
- 6 was deathly concerned about the heart issue because
- 7 that's I think was the big impetus of why he wanted to
- get him to a hospital but he thought it might have
- 9 been related to a heat issue.
- 10 Q That is your recollection of what Mr. Birt
- 11 had testified to?
- 12 A Yes.
- 13 Q Is someone that's experiencing numbness or
 14 tingling on just one side of their body, in other
 15 words, just the left upper extremity as compared with
 16 both extremities, is that significant in determining
- 17 whether or not a patient suffered a heat stroke or --
- 18 A There's definitely a little bit more of a
- concern of a potential heart attack when someone tells
- you they have like unilateral numbness and tingling
- down their left arm, that's kind of a red flag.
- But Jared supposedly said he had numbness
- and tingling in his legs and arms, so I don't know the
- extent that he really focused just on his left arm.
- And, I mean, he was, it was clear he was

- dizzy, light headed, you know, weak, great fatigue.
- 2 And, you know, like I said, Joe was so concerned,
- first he saw him laying down, asked him to sit up,
- 4 then he tells him, Jared tells him he's not doing well
- 5 and Joe lowers him back down to the ground.
- 6 So those are all pretty big indications that
- 7 Jared was in a pretty serious situation, and then they
- 8 assist him to the car and they put him in the truck
- 9 and then the person who is driving the truck thinks
- 10 that this is serious enough that I'm heading to the
- 11 hospital.
- 12 Q If someone is suffering a heat stroke would
- you expect that they are confused?
- 14 A Yes, or what we usually say is there's some
- 15 kind of altered CNS function, CNS stands for central
- 16 nervous system function.
- 17 Someone could be completely unconscious,
- they could have confusion, they could have, you know,
- just inability to act normally, they might be slow to
- 20 respond, agitated, aggressive, I mean, those are just
- some outward signs and symptoms you might see.
- Q Let me do this, well, before I continue with
- that, and so the testimony that you're relying on then
- is from Birt, Wiesen and Linford as you've just
- 25 identified?

- 1 A And Whitt.
- Q And Mr. Whitt himself?
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 Q Do you consider any of the testimony from
- 5 any of the other co-workers and individuals who were
- 6 present at the time of Mr. Whitt regarding their
- 7 observations of his condition to be important or
- 8 significant?
- 9 A I don't want to discredit any of them, I'm
- just targeting some right now. I mean, I think
- 11 Steely, I think he encouraged Jared to go to the
- hospital that evening after I think he might have had
- a phone call with him after he was back at the hotel,
- so he might have sensed something that was important
- 15 and serious.
- 16 Q But you don't know?
- 17 A No, I am just saying he did encourage him to
- go to the hospital, so he might have been putting all
- together what he saw that day and if he was still
- 20 struggling at that moment he was, you know, being
- supportive of him going to the hospital, that's what
- 22 Steely testified.
- Q Okay. Anyone else? Anything else
- 24 significant?
- 25 A Nothing that sticks out at this exact

- 1 moment, those are some of the strong ones.
- Q All right. I'd like to make a list of,
- 3 first of all, heat stroke and if we can go through
- 4 those, what are the signs and symptoms, we have
- touched on some of them, but let's get a working list
- that we can then work off of. What are the signs and
- 7 symptoms of a heat stroke?
- 8 A Well, the two key diagnostic criteria for a
- 9 heat stroke that separates it conclusively from other
- 10 conditions is, one, extreme hyperthermia at the time
- of collapse.
- 12 Q What is that, extreme hyperthermia?
- 13 A Like the exact temperature, usually like 105
- or greater, maybe 104 or greater depending on --
- 15 Q In the internal body temperature?
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 Q Okay.
- 18 A So we lost the ability to have an accurate
- 19 assessment here when they decided not bring him to the
- 20 hospital so we lost one of our key diagnostic
- 21 criteria, we don't have access to this data, because
- 22 obviously they didn't do rectal temperature at the
- cooling station nor did any of his co-workers do it at
- the time of his collapse.
- Just as an example, in the military athletic

situations a rectal temperature would be obtained within a minute or two at the time of collapse.

Second --

Q All that would do is it would just be a diagnostic tool, it's not a treatment tool?

A No, I mean, it allows you immediately to move in that direction that you realize it's a heat stroke because there were other reasons why someone -- the second one I'm going to tell is CNS dysfunction. So the temperature helps you because there are other reasons why someone could have CNS dysfunction.

So if someone is like unconscious in front of you but they're not hyperthermic you're starting to think now about maybe a head injury or, you know, a hypoglycemia issue so the temperature really helps trigger you right towards the proper treatment method.

So CNS dysfunction, I kind of went through that already, that could have a myriad of presentations. In its most severe form it might be just someone in a coma.

I've personally treated 167 heat strokes and more than half of them are conscious and lucid at the time of collapse, but then that could dramatically change in a matter of minutes, that lucidity. So someone might not be able to communicate with you

- 1 anymore, they might have an altered consciousness,
- they might get agitated or aggressive.
- 3 As he said like, in Jared's testimony like
- 4 he thought he was like spacey or goofy, or obviously
- 5 Wiesen's testimony later on which really starts to see
- 6 the effect of now some time passing with the
- 7 hyperthermia, that he was just not, clearly not the
- 8 normal Jared Whitt for that time frame that he was in
- 9 that cooling station.
- 10 Q So the two diagnostic criteria, the extreme
- 11 hyperthermia, and number two, the CNS dysfunction, and
- the CNS dysfunction consists of, it could be coma,
- confusion, what else do you conclude in CNS
- 14 dysfunction?
- 15 A Altered consciousness.
- 16 Q Okay. Define altered consciousness.
- 17 A Someone who's not fully aware so they're not
- maybe giving either proper answers or they say
- inappropriate things or they may be just in and out of
- it, they may be kind of a little bit responsive for a
- 21 little while and then a couple of minutes they're not
- responsive.
- Q What else is included in the CNS
- 24 dysfunction?
- 25 A As I said agitation or aggression, some

people punch and scream and bite. Some people are
assily annoyed.

The biggest thing with a person who is having heat stroke compared to heat exhaustion is heat exhaustion people get better in the ten, 15, 20 minutes after the condition presents itself and someone either, you know, stops exercising, they get them to the shade and they start cooling down, where heat stroke people get worse as time pursues and he clearly was not getting better in any time frame after that. So that's why it's really, really interesting that at the cooling station that he's just not doing well.

Q That's the primary criteria to distinguish between heat stroke and heat exhaustion is that heat exhaustion people will get better in 15 to 20 minutes following the episode?

A Well, in addition to the items I mentioned, I mean, obviously if you have the body temperature measurement, a heat exhaustion person would typically be 102 to 105 at the time of collapse and a heat stroke person would typically be, you know, the most common starting heat stroke temperatures are like in the 105 to the 110 range.

Q All right. So heat exhaustion, we're making

- 1 a list -- well, strike that.
- 2 Before we get to the heat exhaustion, heat
- 3 stroke, did you give me then the entire list?
- 4 A Those are the key diagnostic criteria.
- 5 There are a list of signs and symptoms. The problem
- 6 with the --
- 7 Q All right. We'll get to those in a minute.
- 8 I like your approach, let's talk about the diagnostic
- 9 criteria. So heat exhaustion, we were starting to
- develop a list, one of them being, number one, that
- the internal body temperature is in the range of 102
- to 105 degrees?
- 13 A Yes.
- 14 Q Are there additional diagnostic criteria for
- 15 that list?
- 16 A Yes, I mean, by definition heat exhaustion
- is the inability to continue exercise in the heat.
- 18 Q Then what does that mean, the inability to
- 19 continue exercise in the heat?
- 20 A Usually there's, you're connecting it with
- 21 some kind of cardiovascular insufficiency meaning that
- the person's heart can't continue to sustain --
- There's three things the heart is being
- 24 pressured to do: One, sustain the muscular activity
- of doing the exercise; two, getting blood to the skin

- surface area so that you continue to cool yourself;
- and, three, to maintain blood pressure.
- 3 So it's challenged at this point because the
- 4 muscle is asking for a lot of blood, the skin is
- asking for a lot of blood to cool itself, but you're
- 6 also usually dehydrated at this time so there's less
- 7 of a reservoir of fluid.
- So the body, you know, can't keep up, you
- 9 can't continue to exercise in the heat. So that's why
- 10 people will usually stop and that's why they usually
- 11 rapidly recover because you can get fluids back in the
- 12 person.
- The muscular activity stopping is one of the
- big things that allows a heat exhaustion person to
- 15 recover because now the muscle is not demanding any
- 16 more blood flow like it was during exercise.
- Q And so the recovery issue is important in
- 18 determining the difference between --
- 19 A Yes.
- 21 heat stroke?
- 22 A Yes.
- Q When we talk about the recovery, Doctor, you
- 24 said that heat exhaustion will get better in 15 to 20
- 25 minutes whereas heat stroke, that person will get

- worse over time? 1 2 Α Yes. Can you describe for me in what manner that 0 3 a heat stroke victim will get worse over time? 4 5 Sure. It's the cognitive side of things can get worse, for instance, a good example is Wiesen, he 6 said, I think he said he was there with him for 60 to 7 90 minutes and he was completely not normal for that 8 9 60 to 90 minutes. 10 0 But did, all right, and that was Mr. Wiesen? Α 11 Yes. Did Mr. Whitt get better though following 12 Q that 60 to 90 minutes cognitively? 13 Α Maybe marginally but he seemed like he was 14 15 extremely fatigued and still slow to respond even when they got him back to the hotel which prompted, I guess 16 17 it was Wiesen who drove him back and then prompted 18 them to I think make phone calls and get him to the 19 hospital. 20 Q Okay. So cognitively gets worse, what else in the recovery issue? 21
- cooling station the numbness and tingling were not doing well at all --

Well, it seems like while he was in the

Q Were they getting worse?

Α

1 A -- lightheaded or it was at least sustained.

2 That's one of the big things you have to understand

3 with heat stroke is often things will, maybe one might

4 not get worse but they're not getting better.

5 And there's a few things to understand,

6 people who are rapidly cooled following a heat stroke

they recover a lot faster and a lot of these issues

8 are not problems anymore.

So as an example like with a lot of heat strokes I've cared for, two, three, four hours after a heat stroke these people often can, will walk on their own and will, can leave really well with their family or with friends.

And they are might be exhausted in terms of just like, I don't want to go exercise right now, a lot of fatigue, but they still, they can go home and make themselves dinner and they can watch TV and they can go to sleep and have a normal night's sleep and things like that.

When a heat stroke victim is not aggressively cooled that's when you enter this channel of events like he fell into where, you know, eating didn't go well that next day, or ensuing days, sleep didn't go well, his ability to be out in the heat didn't go well. These are very common things that

- 1 happen for people who have a heat stroke that was not
- 2 cared for properly.
- 3 Q What were the circumstances that you
- 4 treated, I wrote down you said 167 heat stroke victims
- in your career, why were you treating those
- 6 individuals?
- 7 A A lot of different situations. I have been
- 8 on the medical team of a lot of different situations
- 9 where heat strokes take place. So I've been at road
- 10 races, I have been in football players, soccer
- 11 players.
- 12 Q So sporting events?
- 13 A Those were all sporting events. I've
- consulted a lot with military heat strokes but not on
- site specifically for the care of those.
- 16 Q So you yourself personally treating heat
- 17 stroke victims were in connection as part of a medical
- team with road races and sporting events in your
- 19 career?
- 20 A Yes.
- 21 Q I guess we didn't talk about your
- 22 educational background but let me just confirm this.
- 23 First all you are a doctor, it's a doctor of
- 24 philosophy, Ph.D.?
- 25 A Yes.

- 1 Q All right. You are not a medical doctor?
- 2 A That is correct.
- 3 Q All right. So you're personally never
- 4 practiced emergency room medicine, for example?
- 5 A I have not.
- 6 Q Or practiced any type of medicine obviously
- 7 in any specialty?
- 8 A Well, just to clarify because I'm not sure
- 9 if the jury will fully understand, their level of
- 10 understanding regarding athletic training, I'm a
- 11 licensed athletic trainer in the state of Connecticut.
- Q What does that mean?
- 13 A So an athletic trainer is a medical
- 14 professional that prevents, recognizes and treats
- medical conditions to the physically active people.
- 16 So athletic trainers work in sports settings and
- 17 military settings and industrial settings.
- 18 Q You said prevent?
- 19 A Recognize and treat.
- 20 Q Okay.
- 21 A Injuries related to the physically active.
- 22 So that's the medical credential that allows me to
- work in these situations.
- Q And this licensed athletic trainer status,
- 25 that's a license issued by the state of Connecticut?

1 A Yes.

Q What are the criteria to receive that

3 license?

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A You have to graduate from an accredited

athletic training program and you have to pass a

national standardized test, you know, board

certification, similar to any other medical credential

Q Of course becoming a PA is a fairly extensive educational regimen?

like a nurse or a PA or things like that.

11 A Same as athletic training, there's no 12 difference.

Q Tell me the graduating from the accredited training program, for example, how many credit hours?

A Sure. There's typically about 20 athletic training classes you need, so some programs will do it within a master's degree or some programs might make it a fourth or fifth year in an undergrad program so it's, it just depends on the school that you choose. Some people will get their bachelor's first and then do athletic training in graduate studies and some people will do it as part of a bachelor's program.

Q So there's 20 classes, how many credits roughly?

A About 60 credits that are specific to

- 1 athletic training.
- 2 Q So, for example, someone that has a
- 3 bachelor's degree in --
- 4 A Economics.
- 5 Q Perfect. Just give me some sense then
- 6 because I'm not familiar with such licensing, how
- 7 much, somebody that has a bachelor's degree in
- 8 economics and they now want to be a licensed athletic
- 9 trainer, it would be require roughly 60 credits every
- 10 two --
- 11 A To give you an idea, most bachelor's
- 12 programs across America no matter what the field it
- takes about 120 to 130 credits to graduate from any
- 14 college in America.
- 15 About 60 of those are your general education
- 16 things to first, usually first two years of college
- 17 and then usually you're at about 60 credits or so for
- 18 whatever major you chose.
- 19 So like, for example, here at the University
- of Connecticut like that would be similar to the
- 21 amount of credits you would need to become a nurse or
- 22 like an occupational therapist or other medical
- 23 credentials like that.
- 24 Physician assistants still in our country,
- 25 you know, you can be a bachelor's degree and get a PA

- 1 but I know like in 2020 they're moving toward
- 2 requiring a grad degree.
- 3 Similar to athletic training I think our
- 4 year is going to be 2025 --
- 5 THE COURT REPORTER: Could you slow down
- a little bit.
- 7 THE WITNESS: Sorry.
- 8 A I think it's 2025 athletic training will
- 9 require a grad degree so, and PT just made that move
- 10 as well, like they have a date out there that requires
- 11 a grad degree instead of just an undergrad degree.
- 12 So the medical professions are often now
- moving towards the entry level degree becoming a
- 14 graduate degree.
- 15 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 16 Q Okay.
- 17 A Is that helpful?
- 18 Q It is.
- 19 A Okay.
- 21 the recovery issues on patients who suffer heat stroke
- 22 versus heat exhaustion. You had indicated numbness
- and tingling, that that will continue for someone with
- 24 a stroke --
- 25 A It could, like I said some heat stroke

victims might have not at all and some might have that.

Q Let me ask you on that point, is it significant, let's just assume hypothetically that you have a patient or an individual that's only suffering numbness and tingling in one extremity versus both upper extremities, is that consistent or inconsistent with someone that suffered a heat related illness?

A It's really hard to say. I mean, Jared had reported that he felt numbness and tingling in his both legs and both arms and then even at the cooling station later he felt it in both arms and then it really continued specifically in his left arm.

But heat stroke is such a random, in terms of what the responses you see, there's no consistency to it because when you overheat the body there's something what we call the critical threshold for cell damage, it's probably somewhere around 105.5 degrees Fahrenheit. When you get over that zone the human body thankfully has about 30 minutes that it can tolerate without any complications.

Now, that's a huge benefit from an evolutionary perspective because in the past getting above that temperature was something that we did, for instance, when we were hunting because we could get

- 1 hot for a short period of time and then there was no
- damage, no long term consequence which is a powerful
- 3 tool for us. We could have, you know, extreme
- 4 exercise for a short period of time.
- But when you're over that temp for about 30
- 6 minutes you tend to start having long term issues. So
- 7 just to give you an example, when you have a heat
- 8 stroke victim if you keep that window that they're
- 9 over 105 to less than 30 minutes we have evidence in
- over 2,300 cases of heat stroke that they recover
- 11 completely, no issues.
- 12 Q Out of how many?
- 13 A All of them, 2,300 like out of 2,300. If
- you can get someone's temp under 105, this is just
- even outside the landscape of this, this is how we
- 16 save people's lives, you know, who are football
- 17 players and soldiers, this is the key to saving lives
- 18 from heat stroke.
- 19 And, you know, the people who are employing
- you, anytime you have recommendations the key thing is
- 21 getting the temp down as fast as possible if someone
- has heat stroke because we know that from military and
- 23 athletic data that no one has died if their temp
- stays, if it's under 30 minutes.
- Then in the 30 to 60 minute window there's a

chance of death, not likely, but there's a likelihood

that there's going to be some kind of long term

issues. So as examples, it might be someone needs

kidney dialysis either temporarily or permanently or a

kidney transplant, they might have liver issues, they

6 might have muscular issues.

But two of the most common issues are heat intolerance meaning they struggle to exercise in the heat; or cognitive issues, that's a very common thing that I get from former military soldiers that they can't function at the level they did before. So that's the 30 to 60 minutes window.

When you're over 105 for greater than 60 minutes the likelihood of someone dying is greater and if they do survive it becomes much more likely that there's going to be something that, you know, lingers with them beyond just the acute condition.

Q What would you expect that would linger?

A Heat intolerance and cognitive issues are two of the biggest things, kidney issues are also very common. But it's a mixed bag, someone might just have heat intolerance but be cognitive completely fine.

So in this particular case I think he had a what you might call a mild heat stroke where he had a temperature thankfully that wasn't 108 or nine or ten,

1 I have seen heat stroke at 112.

So he might have had something that was in the 105, 106 range and thankfully, you know, you might just be in an air conditioned truck and get to the cooling station, he might not have been above that key temperature for very long.

So thankfully Jared didn't die and thankfully it looks like he might not have issues that's he's going to carry forward maybe for his whole life. So those are really good news items.

So my guess is from everything, you know, looking at what you're seeing is he probably was in that 30 to 60 window of being hyperthermic, because of these things that you see that people are telling you, for instance, the cooling station, you know, he's there up to a couple of hours after.

The heat stroke victims who cool rapidly, they're not like that two hours later. These are people who have normal conversations, they tell me their race, they tell me about the practice they were just doing. And they're tired, but they're just, you know, kind of just tired the way you would feel after an exhaustive bout of exercise but they're still fine, you can look them in the eyes and they seem fine and they can talk to you normally.

But these things now, these ensuing things
that are happening in the following days and week it
tells you that this is clearly not a heat exhaustion
but also Jared got a little lucky that, you know, it
wasn't an extreme heat stroke.

I mean, there was some things that were done well in this situation. Those would include that once Linford saw him, the second he saw him he realized that something was wrong with his co-worker, that we don't know how long Jared was there, we don't if other co-workers could have helped but Joe noticed something.

And then once he got him in the car his colleague, Birt, he thought that this was something above, I don't know how much he was experienced but he said this is something that isn't typical, I'm going to get this guy to the hospital.

Even when they got him back to the cooling station, not optimal in any stretch of the imagination, but they have him in air conditioning, they're thinking of hydrating him, they're thinking of potentially, you know, using ice, these are not the best cooling modalities but they all work, they had the best interest of Jared. So they all hopefully took him from that mild heat stroke into a safety zone

- where maybe, obviously he didn't die and hopefully he
- 2 might not have life long consequences of the
- 3 condition.
- 4 Q I wrote down that you indicated that you
- 5 believe Jared suffered a mild heat stroke?
- 6 A That would be my guess, yes, just, it needs
- 7 to be fair because it's something I would certainly
- 8 tell jurors, we lost, a lot of our ability to
- 9 accurately diagnose this was lost when he didn't go to
- 10 the hospital.
- 11 So we have to make some assumptions that
- 12 normally you would never have to make theses
- assumptions because if Birt had continued to the
- 14 hospital they would have had a core temperature and
- they would have had a much better sense of, a medical
- 16 sense and a medical assessment of cognitive function,
- 17 that all the people who either transported him or
- 18 cared for him at the cooling station, there was no
- 19 people who had medical credentials.
- 20 Q So diagnostic evidence that would have been
- available had he had gone to the hospital would have
- been, number one, core temperature; number two,
- cognitive function evaluation by a medical doctor?
- 24 A Medical professional.
- Q Anything else?

- A No. Like I mentioned to you before a couple of the key diagnostic criteria are hyperthermia and cognitive function, and we really lost our ability to acutely assess those by people who are trained to assess those things.
- Q Is an individual's vital signs or lab
 results, are those important diagnostic criteria to
 determine whether or not an individual suffered a heat
 stroke?
- A Absolutely, they're very important. But in this particular case I'm guesstimating a little bit but it was probably four-and-a-half to five-and-a-half hours later that you first start getting those vital signs or lab tests assessed by medical professionals.
 - Q So meaning when Mr. Whitt went to the hospital later that evening --

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- A It would be make total sense that his temperature would be back down near normal since all that time had passed.
 - Q What are the vital signs and lab results that you would look at in determining whether or not a patient suffers a heat stroke?
- 23 A That's a good question. So a lot of people
 24 will have blood pressure issues, sustained, meaning
 25 like the systolis might be low later on; they might

- 1 still have a high heart rate meaning the pulse still
- 2 might be up in 140s, 50s and 60s for people who are
- 3 still stressed; they might still have a high
- 4 respiratory rate so a, you know, resting might be ten
- or 12 and they might still be in high teens; the
- fourth vital sign would be body temperature, obviously
- 7 harder to tell a little later on; fifth, some people
- 8 use Pulsox, probably at that point that wouldn't be
- 9 very revealing.
- 10 From the lab tests some of the things that a
- lot of people will look at are like liver, people
- 12 would look at liver enzymes as an example, markers of
- muscle function or that rhabdo that I mentioned to you
- earlier, those might be also done, people might look
- 15 at someone's hydration status. Those start to tell a
- 16 little bit of a story. Thankfully in this case as I
- 17 mentioned to you already we did not see elevated liver
- 18 enzymes.
- 19 Q Okay. Those were normal at the time Mr.
- 20 Whitt was seen in the hospital?
- 21 A Yes. I would have to check the time but I'm
- going to guess somewhere in the ten to 12 range that
- 23 night.
- Q So the fact that they were, in which you
- 25 thought guesstimating four-and-a-half, five-and-a-half

hours post incident?

A So a few things you have to consider here, one is that encouraging that his liver enzymes were not elevated at that point, they can be elevated in that short period of time. It tells us again what I told you would probably support my theory of the mild heat stroke situation.

But to be really honest people's liver enzymes, they spike 12, 18, 24 hours later so they don't always give you the most robust response in those few hours later.

Q But of course it's an important criteria given the fact that obviously the hospital drew it and took a look?

A No question. And often they will draw it to serve as a comparison because they often will not expect to see an evaluated level right then but then if he's not doing well and they do it again the next morning and see the spike and now they're really thinking this is a serious heat stroke that's starting to take a turn for the worse and we have to think about how we can help the liver regain normal function. So a lot of times they use that as a baseline measure.

Q Are you aware of any abnormal liver enzyme

- 1 test results for Mr. Whitt?
- 2 A I don't think so. But from my records I
- don't remember him getting any other testing beyond
- 4 that Thursday evening, like, I mean, acutely, like he
- 5 might have had stuff weeks later.
- 6 So all of this points in the same direction
- 7 that you thankfully have a person who when he
- 8 collapsed it was probably in the 105 to 106 range.
- 9 Q So going through the lab results, liver
- 10 enzymes which in this case Mr. Whitt's were normal
- 11 which then could be indicative and support a finding
- that he did not suffer heat stroke, agreed?
- 13 A Yes, I mean, I don't think you could ever
- 14 rule out a heat stroke based on liver enzymes that are
- four or five hours -- perhaps I didn't clarify one
- 16 thing.
- 17 Some people could have heat stroke and not
- have elevated liver enzymes. Liver is one organ that
- doesn't have to be affected from a heat stroke. Okay.
- 20 That is one thing that is often affected.
- 21 But like I mentioned to you before for some
- 22 people it might be their muscles and their kidneys and
- 23 that might be it.
- Q So it's a variety of criteria?
- 25 A Yes.

- Q But do you agree with me though then that at least this one particular criteria, liver enzymes, the fact that those were normal would be indicative or support, just by itself in isolation would support a finding that Mr. Whitt did not suffer a heat stroke?
 - A Not the readings from four or five hours later. If you tell me the morning after readings that they were absolutely normal then we would know one of two things, or three things, that it wasn't an extreme heat stroke or his liver wasn't affected by the heat stroke or he didn't suffer heat stroke.
 - But four or five hours after the condition that is not, that would not be the time you would ever expect to see the peak of those measurements.
 - When someone has a legit, like very serious heat stroke, I'm talking about like people who are 108 to 110 who not cooled, I mean, these things, I mean, they will spike for two, three days out before you start to see it come down.
 - Q So someone that suffers a heat stroke will never have liver enzymes being elevated within the four to five hours --
- 23 A I don't want to say that, they could.
- 24 Q Okay.

25 A But I think most physicians who do the

- 1 measure there, like I said it's usually serving as a
- 2 baseline for the next measure that they're going to be
- 3 getting.
- 4 Q All right. So it may serve as a baseline,
- 5 I'm just trying to understand then what's the purpose
- in doing them that evening, they're normal, is that
- 7 consistent or inconsistent with someone that suffered
- 8 --
- 9 A Well, there's two reason to do it that
- 10 evening. One is if they're already elevated that's
- 11 telling.
- 12 Q If they're elevated it's telling you that
- they had a heat stroke?
- 14 A Yes, it could be a heat stroke.
- 15 Q Right.
- 16 A And second, it serves as the baseline
- 17 because if you see somewhat normal readings right then
- and then it spikes the next morning you know that the
- 19 liver is now being affected by the number of minutes
- 20 that it was hyperthermic. So --
- 21 Q This -- what were you going to say?
- 22 A I was just going to say we often use the
- term like a heat stroke sometimes uncovers the weak
- link organs in our body, where you could have a heat
- 25 stroke and the kidney is not affected at all but the

- 1 muscle is affected or nothing is affected but only the
- 2 brain is affected.
- 3 So like it's just, we don't know, we don't
- 4 have the understanding yet of why these number of
- 5 minutes that they're hyperthermic that seems to affect
- 6 certain organs.
- 7 Now, some people have multi-organ failure
- and that's very tightly related to the number of
- 9 minutes a person is hyperthermic.
- 10 Q The second lab result issue you said was the
- 11 marker of muscle function which was this --
- 12 A Rhabdo.
- Q Rhabdo?
- 14 A The real full name of that is
- 15 rhabdomyolysis.
- 16 Q Did they do that test for Mr. Whitt?
- 17 A I believe they did like often you'll do
- things like test the myoglobin levels, I am actually
- 19 not positive if they did those, actually I would have
- 20 to check, I'm assuming they did and I'm assuming that
- there was nothing extreme right then.
- But once again these things often peak in
- the 12 to 24 hour window after someone has a heat
- 24 stroke.
- 25 Q If that test were performed and if they were

- found to be normal at least at the time that they were
- done, would that be consistent or inconsistent with
- 3 someone that suffered a heat stroke?
- 4 A Well, I think we're back to the same thing
- 5 again. If they, if it was not elevated it's probably
- telling us one of three things: That organ wasn't
- 7 affected by the heat stroke; or they didn't have the
- 8 heat stroke; or not enough time has passed yet to show
- 9 the results from that test.
- 10 Q Okay. The third item of the lab results was
- an analysis of the urine hydration status?
- 12 A Yes.
- Q Was Mr. Whitt evaluated in that respect?
- 14 A Yes. They evaluated him and I guess he was
- still thought to be dehydrated and I believe they gave
- 16 him about two liters of fluid in that few hour stretch
- 17 he was there.
- 18 Q So was the finding Mr. Whitt had, was that
- 19 consistent or inconsistent with a heat stroke or
- 20 something else?
- 21 A Dehydration is often present with heat
- 22 stroke.
- 23 Q Is it also present with heat exhaustion?
- 24 A Yes.
- 25 Q Okay.

- A People who are suffering from heat
 lilnesses, the great percentage of the time they're
 dehydrated.
- Q Okay. So it would be indicative of a heat illness in general, it may also be heat stroke, but it could be some other lesser form of --

- A In terms of what happened that day, that he definitely suffered a heat illness and, you know, dehydration can be, you know, related to any of the heat illnesses but it certainly makes sense for someone who, you know, was active all day in the heat.
 - Q Any other lab results that you are testing that you want to perform to assist in the diagnosis of someone as to whether they suffered a heat stroke that we haven't talked about?
 - A I mean, people would typically do, like they may do cognitive batteries, like on some kind of cognitive test.
 - I think it would matter the extent of what they're being presented with, they wouldn't usually do it like right at that moment in the four hour mark, that might be something they do like a few days later especially if they're concerned that person is not what they think getting back to normal.
- Q Were there any cognitive tests performed on

- 1 Mr. Whitt that night?
- 2 A I don't believe so.
- Q Okay. Anything else that we haven't talked
- 4 about?
- 5 A I don't think so. I mean, I don't know if
- 6 you want to follow up now because you did diagnostic
- 7 criteria, do you want to do signs and symptoms?
- 8 Q I do.
- 9 A Okay.
- 10 Q So what are the signs and symptoms first of
- 11 all of a --
- 12 A This is the really important part in terms
- of education especially for co-workers and people who
- maybe are not medically trained.
- The signs and symptoms of heat exhaustion
- 16 and heat stroke completely overlap each other. So as
- 17 an example nausea and vomiting, headache, dizziness,
- dehydration, extreme fatigue, malaise, I could go on
- but that gives you a little bit of a start. But all
- of those can be present with heat exhaustion and heat
- 21 stroke.
- So the rule of thumb always is if you're not
- 23 sure which of the two conditions it is always assume
- the worst until proven otherwise because a heat
- 25 exhaustion person can never die and never have any

long term complications from their condition. A heat stroke can die or have long term complications. And

heat exhaustion person would never, never suffer from

4 being aggressively cooled.

So the course of action that's optimal for heat stroke would never harm the heat exhaustion person. So you're always better off assuming the worst. And I like David Birt's perspective of let's get him to the hospital as fast as possible because that's where the medical professionals are.

If you told me there was an MD or an athletic trainer at the cooling station I honestly would never have gone to the hospital, I would have want the medical professionals test him as fast as possible.

We have, just to show how important it is to get their temp down to get the medical professionals, the current advice in the military and in athletics that we're trying to get the industrial world to also adapt is the concept of is cool first, transport second if medical professionals are available.

Cool first, transport second, that is if medical professionals are available because we don't want to lose the time, it's reiterating the concept that we have a 30 minute window and we want to take

- 1 advantage of that window.
- Q Okay.
- 3 A In this case, you know, David said he pulled
- 4 off the road when his supervisor called him, and I
- don't know if he pulled off the road for the whole
- 6 eight minutes of that call, but that gives you an
- 7 example of like that's valuable time lost.
- 8 And then they decide to bring him back and
- 9 then for some period of time he ends up staying in the
- 10 truck and then goes into this cooling station and all
- of it is not optimal ways of cooling so our minutes,
- our clock is ticking and we're losing valuable time
- and that's why we, you know, always assume the worst,
- 14 assume it's a heat stroke until proven otherwise.
- 15 And given the circumstances I think, you
- 16 know, you would always want these co-workers to think,
- 17 you know, this may be a heat stroke, let's get him
- 18 cared for quickly.
- 19 Q Do you believe that telephone call was eight
- 20 minutes long?
- 21 A I was told it was eight minutes long so I'm
- 22 just --
- Q Who told you that, Mr. Cox?
- 24 A It was in this, I can find it for you, in
- 25 the chronological stuff.

- 1 MR. COX: Keep your voice up.
- 2 THE WITNESS: Sorry.
- 3 A Here it is, got it.
- 4 This says here, phone records, Thomas
- 5 Dalebout called Dave Birt and the call lasted eight
- 6 minutes.
- 7 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 8 Q That's Exhibit?
- 9 A I'm sorry, Exhibit 46.
- 10 Q Page?
- 11 A Page four.
- MR. COX: David, so you'll know, those
- are from the phone records that you sent me.
- 14 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 15 Q All right. So you were indicating that then
- 16 if there's a medical professional on site don't
- 17 transport, treat him right there, cool first,
- 18 transport second?
- 19 A Just with the caveat, if you have an
- 20 appropriate cooling modality like cold water immersion
- 21 or being able to have like a shower from a cold locker
- 22 room shower like where you can douse completely the
- 23 whole body with cold water.
- 24 Q That was going to be my next question, what
- is an appropriate treatment for someone like Mr.

- 1 Whitt?
- 2 A There is the ideal treatment and that would
- 3 be something like cold water immersion.
- 4 Q Cold water immersion, how would that take
- 5 place?
- 6 A Yes, people usually have like in athletic
- fields and like basic training scenarios in the
- 8 military they'll have like a Rubbermaid tub, and it's
- 9 filled with ice and water, like maybe a 150 gallon
- 10 tub.
- 11 Q You've seen that in the military?
- 12 A Yes.
- Q Okay.
- 14 A Some basic training stuff, they'll have six
- or eight of those set up.
- 16 Q Of course, basic training, that's a pretty
- 17 extreme exertional activity?
- 18 A Yes. Like American football, I mean, the
- 19 current guidelines of high school, college and pro
- 20 football is to always have an immersion tub set up
- 21 during August practices and it's become actually
- thankfully a standard of care.
- 23 Q Okay.
- 24 A So it's, the reason it's kind of a good
- 25 thing is it's not expensive for people to buy a \$150

- tub, and ice and water is usually accessible.
- 2 So usually cool someone in a 15 to 20 minute
- 3 range because someone's temp in that modality goes
- down about a degree Fahrenheit every three minutes.
- 5 So if you go back to the scenario I said the most
- 6 common starting temps for heat stroke are 106 to 110,
- if you just took 108 as an example there, someone
- 8 would get down from 108 to 104 in about 12 to 15
- 9 minutes. So my most common thing is 18 to 20 minutes
- of cooling a heat stroke victim, I mean, I've cooled
- 11 some for 30 but --
- 12 Q So the cold water immersion, so using like a
- Rubbermaid tub. What other ways?
- 14 A Other ways would be dousing the whole body
- with cold water so, for instance, being under a cold
- shower.
- Q Would simply pouring water on the individual
- 18 be acceptable?
- 19 A You could pour water if you had the entire
- 20 body being covered with cold water and it was
- 21 perpetual, so like dousing with a hose, for instance,
- is another modality we recommend in some situations if
- you have, if the water coming from the hose is
- 24 reservoir water it might not be good but if it's well
- 25 water it might be cold like where reservoir water

- 1 might be warm during the summertime.
- THE COURT REPORTER: Please, please slow
- down.
- 4 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry.
- 5 A Let me go back.
- 6 So water from a reservoir in the summertime
- often is hot because it's closer to the surface, I
- 8 mean, we make sure people practice their techniques
- 9 they're going to be using.
- 10 But if it's water that comes from a well, a
- 11 well kind of supply that would impact water that like
- 12 comes from a shower, dousing with a hose, that would
- be cold. But it has to be perpetual introduction of
- 14 cold water on the body.
- 15 Another example is just pouring ice over the
- 16 entire body like literally because some people might
- 17 not have water but they might have ice so like
- 18 covering the entire skin surface with ice.
- 19 Another example is rotating cold wet towels.
- 20 This is a good portable way of treating heat stroke
- 21 where you might have a cooler and it has ten towels in
- 22 it filled with ice and water and you could strip the
- 23 person down to like their underwear and introduce
- freezing, cold, wet towels on the body, and then after
- 25 you're done putting that tenth one on the body you

- take off the one you put on first, put that back in
- 2 the cooler and keep introducing freezing, cold, wet,
- 3 water.
- 4 That's probably 60 to 70 percent as
- 5 effective as cold water immersion, but if you're able
- 6 to start cooling them right away you still can get
- 7 them under that key temp of like 105 within that 30
- 8 minute window.
- 9 So those are some of the more optimal ways.
- 10 If you told me you had none of those available, you
- 11 know, we'd still have to go to other considerations
- because even like a person driving someone in an
- ambulance we still want them cooling while they're
- 14 transporting them and they may not be able to do one
- of those techniques.
- 16 Like a good example would be military
- 17 because it would be similar to a train situation where
- they are out, you know, working where it might be a
- 19 couple of miles up the road, up the track.
- In the military like if someone goes down to
- 21 basic training they might have a ten minute truck
- 22 drive back to where the cooling station is but they
- 23 cool them in that whole ten minute truck drive with
- the best modality they have available in the truck
- 25 until they get to the tubs.

1 BY MR. SCHMITT:

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- Q What's an appropriate way then for an individual suffering an heat illness to be cooled while traveling?
- Α In transporting so, I mean, there's lot of 5 thing that help so you try to have a lot of these 6 things present, air conditioning would be helpful, 7 shade would be helpful, if you have a lot of water 8 9 available like, for instance, in coolers or water bottles like, for instance, there's a flat bed truck 10 like in the military you can still douse the person 11 with cold water from water bottles or any kind of 12 containers you have. 13
 - Q Is drinking water while that person is being transported, is that a good treatment modality?
 - A It is, the colder the better of the water, and even if someone has ice bags, I mean, ice bags on 30 percent of the body is better than not being on the body at all.
- So those things, you are doing whatever you possibly can to assist the cooling process, that's the key.
- It's one thing, no matter how this case
 unfolds one thing I would encourage Union Pacific to
 do, and I do this in all their cases, is I would

- 1 really would encourage them and for their co-workers
- 2 to just reiterate that point, do anything possible to
- 3 treat on site, during transport, in the cooling
- 4 station if you've waiting for the ambulance, or, you
- 5 know, in the ambulance or anything like that, we would
- 6 want to get that advice out just publicly at large to
- 7 just help everyone.
- 8 Q Is having a cooling station present on the
- 9 site of a work location that has air conditioning in
- 10 it, is that a good practice?
- 11 A Having a cooling station is a good practice,
- 12 I would have a better modality on site to cool a heat
- stroke victim. They didn't have the opportunity to
- 14 really cool him well in that station.
- I mean, it's better than nothing to be in an
- 16 air conditioned, shaded environment, for instance,
- while you're waiting for an ambulance than just being
- 18 out in the heat.
- 19 But one example if it wasn't, I don't know
- 20 how, I'm sure all of these cooling stations are
- 21 different throughout the country but, for instance, if
- there was a locker room there you could have a tub set
- 23 up where you could easily put water in and train it
- each day.
- Or the example I gave you of a cooler with

- 1 rotating ice, wet towels because you could easily put
- a plastic tarp down and then keep rotating ice, cold,
- 3 wet towels on the person, and it would not be that
- 4 messy to clean up afterwards.
- 5 So those are things that could be utilized
- on site while you're potentially waiting for transport
- 7 because I'm making the assumption there's not a
- 8 medical professional there in a lot of those cooling
- 9 station so that you would be looking eventually to get
- 10 this person to a medical facility.
- 11 Q As far as then the treatment that you say
- should be provided by a medical professional on site
- can that treatment, this immersion, this rapid
- cooling, can that take place by a non medical
- 15 professional?
- 16 A Yes. That's good question. So if, I'm
- assuming that when these teams get together there's
- 18 probably some kind of medical designee so someone who
- is first aid, CPR certified, has gone through basic,
- it's their health designee for that unit of people
- that are working.
- 22 So if that's the case that person should
- definitely initiate the best possible cooling that
- they can utilize until the ambulance arrives, and if
- 25 that facility allows for an immersion tub I would

- 1 absolutely encourage that. If it only allows for
- 2 rotating the cold, wet towels I would encourage that.
- 3 No matter why I would recommend more than they had
- 4 currently in this situation that something has a
- 5 little better cooling rate.
- 6 Q Okay. What was provided here to Mr. Whitt
- you would agree with me that at least there was, and
- 8 I'll just use the term first aid, there were certainly
- 9 first aid procedures that were followed for Mr. Whitt
- 10 to attempt to cool him, would you agree with that?
- 11 A I would agree. I think they recognized that
- it was a serious circumstance and they were able to
- provide shade and air conditioning and maybe some
- ability to maybe put a cooling collar on or maybe some
- ice or maybe put some water on parts of his body,
- 16 people did recognize that it was a serious condition.
- 17 Q Were all of those things you just mentioned,
- the air conditioning, the cooling towels and devices
- around his neck, in the shade, drinking water, pouring
- 20 water over him, were those all good practices by Union
- 21 Pacific?
- 22 A They were all very good practices and they
- were all appropriate but none of them provide the
- 24 really high cooling rates that would optimize a heat
- 25 stroke recovery.

Q So in your opinion the distinction of what should have been done is there should have been a more optimal type of cooling, rapid cooling provided to Mr. Whitt, is that fair?

A If he was going to be remaining on site for transport I would want to have more aggressive cooling.

If the protocol is going to be to just drive the person as fast as possible after a serious situation takes place I would want to have some level of cooling while they're transporting him and obviously not get halfway and then turn around and start.

Q If Mr. Whitt was going to be treated on site the more aggressive cooling that should have taken place was this immersion, cold water immersion that we were discussing earlier?

A I mean, each situation would have to have its own emergency action plan, and I would have to think heat stroke and cardiac and orthopedic injuries would be your three biggest most serious situations in railroads in terms of needing emergency care.

So your emergency action plan would have to be dictated, well, what's the capacity at the cooling station, if you don't have a, you know, a water supply

- of cold water and there's not a shower there or
- there's not a hose there the immersion might not be
- general feasible. You might have to go the route of using a
- 4 cooler that's filled with ice water and towels and
- 5 have this tarp thing that I said.
- 6 So each place has to decide what its own
- 7 emergency action plan is. There's multiple
- 8 appropriate methods to succeed in this venue but no
- 9 matter what it needed to be more effective.
- 10 Because they chose this route that they were
- going to -- the big thing is they made the decision
- that they were going to, they were going to do the
- cooling because they didn't choose to, like they
- didn't even, it's not like they were cooling while
- they were waiting for the ambulance, they didn't call
- 16 the ambulance, you know what I'm saying, they chose to
- 17 be the medical providers and provide the cooling in
- this circumstance. That's never anything we would
- 19 ever want to recommend.
- 20 If it's something that was this serious, you
- 21 know, just even just think of the situation, if was
- 22 serious enough that they were thinking of bringing him
- to the hospital, serious enough that the supervisor
- said, yes, let's get you to the cooling station, and
- 25 then serious enough that a bunch of people are

- 1 continuing to help him, you know, I would have thought
- they would have at least called an ambulance while
- 3 they were caring for him, you know. At some point
- 4 they should have gotten a medical professional
- 5 involved in his care.
- I mean, really the only time a medical
- 7 professional got involved in his care was a few hours
- later, you know, and either his roommate or himself
- 9 decided that, or, you know, advice from others calling
- 10 people that it warranted medical, but it was, really,
- 11 co-workers really needed to help him at that point.
- 12 Q Do you agree with me that not every
- 13 situation where an individual gets overheated that
- they don't need to go to the hospital in every one of
- those cases, first of all, do you agree?
- 16 A I do agree, yes, it's true, in not all cases
- 17 of heat illnesses would you transport someone or
- require a medical person to arrive or treat the
- 19 person.
- 20 Q In fact, if we assume that an individual is
- 21 simply a little overheated, too hot, been in the sun
- 22 too long, that the type of treatment provided by Union
- 23 Pacific on site can be appropriate in certain
- 24 circumstances, correct?
- 25 A It can.

- 1 MR. COX: Form and foundation.
- 2 BY MR. BECKETT:
- 3 Q Then the distinction, am I correct then that
- 4 the distinction that you're trying to make is the
- 5 severity of the condition that Mr. Whitt was
- 6 experiencing which is then dictating that a different
- 7 treatment protocol be followed than was provided to
- 8 him, is that right?
- 9 A Yes.
- 10 Q All right. So now then, and so the
- distinction, the reason that in your opinion that the
- first aid provided to Mr. Whitt on site wasn't
- appropriate, that more should have been done, is based
- on what specific condition or conditions that
- Mr. Whitt was experiencing, what makes his case
- 16 different than another worker that just simply gets
- 17 too hot where treatment on site like Union Pacific did
- 18 would have been appropriate?
- 19 A Yes, I think what we have to boil this down
- 20 to is the only likelihood that Jared had was it was
- 21 either a severe heat exhaustion or a mild heat stroke.
- 22 Q So you agree he could have had either one?
- 23 A Let me just finish. I'm saying in terms of
- his co-workers that were there at the time, what he
- 25 was going through at that moment, the only two, if you

- 1 had a medical professional that was there at that
- 2 moment there were only two possibilities, severe heat
- 3 exhaustion or a mild heat stroke. It could have been
- a more heat stroke at that time but we don't have the
- temperature, we don't know.
- 6 But those are the only two possibilities.
- 7 If you don't have medical professionals there without
- guestion the people who are not medically trained have
- 9 to call for medical help because they are not trained
- 10 to make the difference between a severe heat
- 11 exhaustion or a mild heat stroke.
- 12 They're obligated to get this person help
- because the medical professional is going to have to
- make the decision. We know that the reason, I don't
- think it was a heat exhaustion at all, and the reason
- 16 is is because a heat exhaustion person does not suffer
- 17 later that night, the next day, the weeks after this,
- there's no way this is a heat exhaustion case.
- 19 Q We have discussed all the reasons.
- 20 A We already went through this. He struggled
- and suffered for days afterwards.
- 22 O So you've told me, just so that we're clear,
- you've told me all of the bases for that opinion and
- 24 conclusion, correct?
- 25 A Right.

1 Q Okay.

A But the bottom line is, and this is just whoever we are talking about it, athletics, it could be a coach; soldiers, it could be a drill sergeant; industry, it could be their co-workers. If it's something serious enough that we're doing all this kind of care and we're not sure what it is we got to get a medical professional involved. Let them make the decision.

I would much rather someone get the medical care and say, you know what, it was a heat exhaustion, make that call at that point, not a co-worker, there was no person there that had the medical credential to make that decision.

Q So though I understand in this case err in favor of the worst scenario?

A I would think the company would want that too because if it's the worst thing you would get the get the right care, if it's not the worst thing you have prevented the bad thing from happening, and you'd much rather than have a bunch of mild stuff and be sure you never have the serious thing.

I mean they always tell that with people with heat stroke, assume the worst because you never then have the death, always avoid the death or the

- long term complication. You'd much rather have, you
- 2 know, maybe ten unwarranted ambulance calls in your
- 3 life and have saved all your heat stroke victims.
- 4 Q Is it important for an individual like Mr.
- 5 Whitt who is suffering some type of heat illness to
- 6 talk with that patient and talk with that individual
- 7 and find out how they're doing, how are they feeling,
- 8 what did they want to do, how do they want to be
- 9 treated, is it important for co-workers, supervisors,
- 10 everyone present to be asking those types of
- 11 questions?
- 12 A That's a great, great point. So when it
- comes to heat stroke we actually don't ever care what
- the patient is saying, it's really completely
- irrelevant what the patient is telling you.
- 16 Q Why?
- 17 A The reason is is that the cognitive issues
- affect their ability to think rationally and so when
- 19 I'm dealing with a heat stroke victim, I'm just going
- 20 to give you an example or two.
- I once had a person tell me he didn't want
- 22 rectal temperature done because he was against that
- idea. Well, we did it and it was 108.8 and he was
- 24 unconscious five minutes later, you know.
- 25 I've had people who tried to not be immersed

because they didn't want to be immersed, people who
punch and kick and scream; people who just aren't able
to answer quickly or coherently.

So when someone is suspected of having heat stroke but the report back from that person is not, would never dictate their care, it's their other things they are presenting to you, for instance, not being able to have complete sentences, not being their normal kind of personality that you would expect them to have, things like dizziness or extreme fatigue, you're taking all this all as a collective whole and making a decision.

The key factor here is you don't have a medical professional there so you got to just assume it's the worst until proven otherwise. If there's a medical professional there they can then make the judgment and let it sit on their shoulders that they could be making a mistake but at least they have that ability to make that differential.

The key thing too is temperature is the key starting point to really have a good sense of what's going on.

Q In order to be able to determine whether or not the individual can speak in complete sentences of course you need to talk to that individual?

There's no question you're attempting to 1 Α 2 communicate with that person, what I'm saying is that what's coming out of their mouth is not meaningful to 3 you, you're not making your judgment, like if I said a 4 5 fifth of the people I've treated in my life if I asked them if they want me to cool them right now they would 6 have said absolutely not, but I didn't listen to them, 7 I never took their advice, I never made any of my 8 9 medical decisions based on the advice they were 10 giving. But you're talking to them because you want 11 Q to, that's part of your evaluation though to see how 12 they're going to respond? 13 Α There's no question. 14 So someone like a supervisor on site, it's a 15 Q good practice for that supervisor to be talking with 16 17 that employee and getting information from that 18 employee, correct? Α That's a very good point. But the thing is 19 20 But is that correct? 21 0 It is, yes. Part of your assessment would Α 22 23 be to have a verbal dialogue with the person. 24 But all I'm stating is the things they say

to you, if you're suspecting a severe heat illness,

- that is a possibility of a severe heat illness, which
- 2 I think people in this case thought it might have been
- a severe illness, the other ability to make logical
- 4 thoughts can be compromised so we don't listen to
- 5 their advice on terms of their care.
- 6 We would never, like the supervisor
- 7 Dalebout, who called, and I think Birt might have
- 8 asked Jared a couple of times, we would never, that
- 9 person asking them how he feels is irrelevant at that
- 10 point.
- I mean, this person was laying down on the
- 12 side, not feeling so well that his supervisor had to
- lay him back down, being carried to a car, he's like I
- think being reclined in a car being transported
- 15 having, feeling very uncomfortable.
- 16 His testimony is, you know, pretty powerful
- 17 that he was not feeling well at this point. So what,
- him telling us like, oh, yeah, I think I should go
- 19 back to the cooling station, that doesn't mean
- 20 anything to us, we would never want that to be part of
- 21 our judgment at that point.
- 22 Q I mean the practices though, if we take some
- of those things that were occurring, if Mr. Linford,
- if he's talking with Jared, Jared is in the shade and
- 25 Mr. Linford puts him back down, of course that would

- demonstrate that Mr. Linford is a caring person trying
- 2 to do an appropriate things, right?
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 Q I mean that would be --
- 5 A That would be a good move.
- 6 Q That would be a good practice, putting him
- 7 back down?
- 8 A Yes.
- 9 Q Helping Mr. Whitt, whether Mr. Whitt was
- able to walk on his own, ambulate on his own, but at
- least putting people on both sides of him to make sure
- he doesn't stumble and fall, that's a good practice,
- 13 right?
- 14 A Absolutely.
- Q Reclining a seat to make it easier to get in
- 16 and out of the truck whether or not the person needs
- it but at least reclining it to facilitate entry into
- 18 a vehicle, that's a good practice?
- 19 A Yes.
- 20 Q Air conditioning on high in the truck,
- that's a good practice?
- 22 A Absolutely.
- Q Do you agree with me that everything that
- 24 was done by Union Pacific, let's just pick the point
- at least to the point that he's in Mr. Birt's truck

- and he's being transported away everything that was

 done was up to that point was appropriate, acceptable

 good practices by Union Pacific?
- I totally agree, I actually even stated 4 5 before, I don't know what happened before Linford saw him, but from the moment Linford got him, took care of 6 him, recognized immediately it could be serious, got 7 him to Birt's car with help to keep him safe so he 8 9 might not have like fainted or hurt himself, Birt 10 immediately said, I'm going to get him and driving him, that's exactly what you would want to have 11 happen. 12
- Q Okay.
- 14 A I am totally on board with that point.
- 15 And given the possibility of like how long
 16 it would have taken an ambulance to come and pick him
 17 up and then bring him back, like that was all optimal,
 18 that's what I would have done, maybe might have had
 19 some additional cooling en route possibly.
- 20 But up to the point when he got the call
 21 from the supervisor that was really looking out for
 22 the best for him.
- 23 I'm not saying that I don't know if Jared 24 was potentially down before Joe got to him but from 25 the moment Joe recognized there was a problem to the

- 1 point that that call was received by Birt that's what
- I would have wanted to have done so I had no
- 3 criticisms of that at all.
- 4 Q Okay.
- 5 A Maybe the ability to cool him en route like,
- for instance, if the hospital was 40 minutes away I
- 7 would have wanted cooling take place during the
- 8 transport.
- 9 MR. COX: Let me interrupt for a second
- if I might. Both of you are saying that it was
- Joe Linford that found Jared laying under the
- 12 trailer. I think it was actually Mr. Ornellas
- that did all that. Since you're both confused
- 14 about that I just wanted to clarify that.
- THE WITNESS: I may have made that
- mistake.
- 17 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 18 Q Okay. So with that modification your
- 19 testimony is, you stand by your testimony in all other
- 20 respects?
- 21 A Yes. Just the person who found him, all
- that stuff.
- Q That's fine. Do you think it's appropriate
- for a manager to be concerned, a director, a manager,
- to be concerned about the condition of their

- 1 employees?
- 2 A Yes.
- 3 Q I mean, do you have criticism about Mr.
- 4 Dalebout expressing concern about Mr. Whitt's
- 5 condition and calling him to talk to him about it?
- 6 A I definitely think it's a good idea for a
- 7 supervisor to call but the more important person,
- 8 let's just say the possibility of severe heat
- 9 exhaustion or a heat stroke, the more important
- 10 opinion in that call was definitely the person driving
- 11 him, not the patient himself.
- 12 Q Okay.
- 13 A You would never want a supervisor from a
- remote spot talking to a person, for instance, who
- might be a heat stroke victim and then making the
- 16 judgment based on that.
- 17 The only person that would have mattered in
- that car was talking to David, and David was like, I'm
- 19 feeling that we should transport him, that's why I'm
- 20 bringing him to the hospital, I'm already en route,
- and his supervisor didn't support him.
- Q But you're not critical of Mr. Dalebout
- having concern about the condition of his employee and
- asking him, hey, how are you doing, and at least
- 25 discussing the situation with him?

- 1 A Absolutely appropriate that he made the call
- 2 to the vehicle. I just don't think he should have
- 3 impeded his care.
- 4 Q Okay. On that point as far as impeding his
- 5 care, now ultimately you understand that Mr. Whitt
- 6 expressed, verbally expressed the decision that he
- 7 wanted to return to the cooling tent, is that right?
- 8 MR. COX: Form and foundation.
- 9 A You have to understand that my opinion is
- 10 that he suffered a heat stroke.
- 11 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 12 Q Right.
- 13 A So Jared's thought process of being asked to
- be transported to the cooling station is completely
- 15 not relevant.
- 16 Q All right. But you agree with me that the
- testimony and the evidence that you've reviewed is
- that it was Mr. Whitt, I understand you're saying his
- decision doesn't make any difference, but it was
- 20 Mr. Whitt that expressed --
- 21 A Yes.
- he wanted to the return to the cooling tent, do you
- first of all agree with that?
- MR. COX: Excuse me. Form and

- 1 foundation, it misstates evidence.
- 2 A It is true, what you said is true, Jared may
- 3 have requested to go back to the cooling station.
- 4 But that's also very much in line with heat
- 5 stroke victims that I've seen in my own life, that
- 6 they ask for a different care for themselves.
- 7 So the person who was driving Jared who
- 8 thought he needed to get to a hospital, that's the
- 9 person who was kind of his provider at that moment, he
- 10 was his guardian at that moment, he was the closest
- thing to a medical provider at that moment. He was
- the one who should have made the ultimate decision
- 13 regarding his care.
- 14 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 15 Q If we assume that, let's just take a
- 16 hypothetical that there was no hospital within a 500
- 17 radius or a health care professional within a 500 mile
- radius because you're working out in the middle of the
- 19 desert somewhere.
- 20 A Okay.
- Q In that situation, if we make that
- assumption that an option of taking that person to a
- hospital wasn't available do you agree with me that
- the first aid, the treatment that was provided by
- 25 Union Pacific to Mr. Whitt then in this situation was

The case you described, then you

appropriate, reasonable treatment?

Α

- 2 definitely would have had a more aggressive cooling 3
- modality on site because you would have known there's 4
- no way I'm going to get this person cooled to the 5
- hospital so you would have had a tub or rotated cold 6
- water towels, any appropriate care would have been to 7
- have a much more aggressive cooling on site. 8
- 9 I don't think David would have embarked on 10 the beginning of that trip if he knew he had a 500
- mile drive, I think I made the drive thinking that he 11
- was, you know, ten, 15 minutes from a hospital. 12
- One thing to always keep in the back of your 13
- mind too is that David was thinking that this might 14
- have been a heart condition issue. 15
- I think that was his testimony. 16 0
- 17 Α There's many reasons for wanting to take
- 18 David was thinking maybe the heart thing might
- have been related to the heat illness or a cause of 19
- the heat illness. 20
- But I am not aware if they had an AED on 21
- site in the rail yard. I'm not sure of that. But the 22
- 23 only way you would ever care for a heart person is
- 24 getting him close to where the AED is, and that's why
- because even if you forget when Dalebout makes the 25

- 1 call, forget the heat thing, just the possibility that
- this was a heart attack, the only way he would ever
- 3 survive is getting him to the hospital because the AED
- 4 is the only thing that's going to save someone's life
- 5 if they go into cardiac arrest.
- 6 So from my perspective Birt had the right
- 7 hunch, the right thought, it fell in line with
- 8 Ornellas, you know, feeling that it was something that
- 9 required some care.
- 10 And if you look at Birt's testimony, one of
- the most compelling things was, well, first of all you
- look at his action, his action was let's get him to
- the hospital until the supervisor stopped that
- 14 property.
- But Birt looking back whenever he gave his
- 16 deposition, when he said he considered a couple of
- 17 days later he wishes he had continued on to the
- hospital, I mean, because often people's first
- intuition is correct and he saw a person in front of
- 20 him that was not the normal Jared Whitt and he's like,
- 21 I'm going to get this guy the hospital based on what
- he's telling and what I'm seeing, and he regretted a
- couple of days later not following through on his
- 24 actions.
- 25 Q Is the long term condition that Mr. Whitt

- 1 currently experiences regardless of what the cause was
- but at least the condition, do you understand he's
- 3 complaining of some issues with his left upper
- 4 extremity?
- 5 A Yes.
- 6 Q Some numbness or weakness or tingling, is
- 7 that right?
- 8 A Yes.
- 9 Q My question to you is that --
- 10 A This is related to the surgery he recently
- 11 had, right?
- Q Well, it's my understanding he recently had
- 13 surgery.
- 14 A Okay. I don't know a follow up related to
- the surgery or anything, details related to that, but
- 16 I'm assuming you're connecting these two parts.
- 17 Q Maybe I should ask it this way, what in your
- opinion was the long term sequela that Mr. Whitt
- 19 experienced as a result of this heat related incident?
- 20 A That's a good question. So I don't know if
- 21 we have a full understanding of that yet, for
- instance, I don't know if he still has heat
- intolerance, like typically someone would have a heat
- tolerance test down for something like that, because
- 25 that's one of the common things that happens after a

- 1 heat issue is heat intolerance. So that hadn't been
- done. I don't know if he's gone through a full -- I
- don't think he has any long term cognitive issues,
- 4 thankfully.
- But hopefully this is, I mean, knock on
- 6 wood, hopefully this is the only lingering issue that
- 7 he has from that particular episode.
- 8 Q The left arm condition?
- 9 A Yes. But like I said I don't want to say
- 10 that convincingly because I don't know of any evidence
- of a heat tolerance test being done on him.
- 12 Q The only other thing that you suspect that
- could be out there would be possible heat intolerance
- but you just don't know because we don't have any test
- 15 results?
- 16 A That's just based on like seeing Jared's
- 17 testimony and hearing from Jim that Jared seems to be
- doing better.
- 19 Q Okay. Now, do you understand that Mr. Whitt
- filed this lawsuit claiming two separate incidents,
- one was a heat related illness, and another one had to
- do with a lifting issue?
- 23 A Yes, I believe that was two to three weeks
- 24 earlier in the same June.
- 25 Q My question is have you formed any opinions

as to the cause of Mr. Whitt's left arm condition that
he currently experiences?

A Yes, that's a good question. I mean, obviously I have to be a bit speculative. But in terms of my opinion remember earlier I had said sometimes a heat stroke reveals some of your weak links in your body because that hyperthermia can cause different things so that thing that happened in earlier June might have been amplified or brought back into the fold because of the heat stroke.

So he had said he had weakness and tingling in his legs and arms and then there was some kind of tense contractures that were happening, I think his wording might even have been beyond what your normal like amount of flexion, for instance, might be. So that might have exacerbated that previous condition, might have been made it worse.

The thing to consider, that was another potential benefit of going right to the hospital because there's, that's not uncommon to see something like this, and at the hospital they could have given him medication, pharmaceutical intervention to actually stop that from happening, so we might have been able to prevent, the condition that he is suffering right now we might not be dealing with this

- 1 at all right now if he had gone right to the hospital.
- 2 Q But we don't know?

- A We don't know. Like I said all of it has to speculative on what I wanted him to get to the hospital and get medical care right away so we have to make our best guesses right now.
 - Q You said that, as I recall you said something to the effect that this is not an uncommon situation or uncommon condition or maybe it's a common condition?
 - A In heat stroke victims, I don't want to say common meaning like greater than 50 percent. I have seen in many cases of heat stroke I've care for people having tense contractures of their musculature that goes on for extended periods of time.
 - So it might be in their legs that they have extreme contraction of like their hamstrings or their quadriceps muscles, it might be their biceps, it could be their wrist flexors, I mean we could be cooling people for heat stroke and they could be sitting there like this like for 15 or 20 minutes in a row.
 - But when you get their temperature down really fast that helps relieve that because obviously the heat stroke is subsiding. Or if someone is in the hospital they will give like relaxants, muscle

- relaxants, they'll often put in an IV to calm this 1 person down. 2
- And that continued contraction, I mean, this 3 can happen to any human being, if you sit there 4 5 holding a cell phone next to your ear for a three hour phone call when you get off the phone you can't like 6 move your arm.
- So imagine that happening forcefully, 8 9 uncontrollably in a heat stroke victim for an extended 10 period of time, that obviously can be related to some of the issues he's dealing with now. 11
- Have you ever seen a heat stroke victim 12 Q or -- let me strike that and be broader. 13

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- Have you seen someone who suffered a heat related illness regardless of the severity suffer permanent numbness, weakness in one upper extremity as a result of that?
 - That's a good question. So thankfully for most of the heat strokes I have cared for, I mentioned to you earlier they're all cooled really rapidly and they survive and they don't have long term sequela.
- But I do know of cases, people in the past in the military that have had situations like that where they have ongoing issues and it might not just be, it could be the arm or the leg, it could also be,

- 1 I've known of people like in the upper muscles of
- their neck, whatever went into this kind of tension
- 3 mode for an extended period of time could have been
- 4 injured from that.
- 5 Do you mind if we take a quick break?
- 6 Q Fine.
- 7 (Recess)
- 8 (Time noted: 11:37 a.m.)
- 9 MR. SCHMITT: Back on the record.
- 10 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 11 Q We were talking about the current condition
- 12 Mr. Whitt experiences with his left arm issues. My
- question is are you able to say whether with any
- certainty, reasonable certainty, whether or not the
- first incident with the lifting, whether or not that
- 16 had any role one way or another in the condition that
- 17 Mr. Whitt is currently experiencing?
- 18 A I think it's related because I think that
- 19 first condition, he was dealing with something that
- 20 was a little weak in his body when he had the heat
- 21 stroke.
- Q But how do you know that, what do you base
- that on?
- 24 A I mean, it's not, it's just a professional
- opinion. I mean, he had an injury and it's likely he

- 1 wasn't fully recovered and then he has this extreme
- 2 stress of a heat stroke, and then that previous injury
- is now something that's bothering him, you know, for
- 4 the long term.
- 5 So it kind of makes sense that there was
- 6 something that was weak and now is stressed even more
- 7 and is now affected by it. I can't give you medical
- 8 evidence to back that up.
- 9 Q Right. What I'm trying to find out is it
- 10 really speculation on your part, is it just an
- 11 educated guess?
- 12 A It is an educated guess.
- 13 Q Okay.
- 14 A The fact of the matter is there's no
- evidence in the world to specifically tie this
- 16 condition that happens two weeks before with a heat
- 17 stroke because we don't have, there's no ability to
- 18 pull from any evidence that we have to say that's
- 19 true.
- 20 Q If there was an incident, whenever it
- certainly wasn't of a magnitude that Mr. Whitt
- reported to anyone at the time, you understand that?
- 23 A Yes. I remember reading that he didn't
- 24 report that until a month or two later.
- 25 Q Are you aware of any evidence that he was

- 1 actually having any problems, complaints, anything at
- all with that left upper extremity during the, let's
- 3 say, well, for a significant period of time before the
- 4 heat related illness?
- 5 A I mean, I don't remember him saying that
- 6 there was an issue during the course of the day.
- 7 Q Right.
- 8 A Yes.
- 9 Q So that's really my question is, I mean this
- 10 issue of this, of the lifting these bags of anchors, a
- couple of weeks before that he doesn't report, that he
- doesn't lose any time, that it's my understanding at
- least from what he said that he may have had a little
- 14 bit of soreness at least initially, is it fair to say
- that it's really a guess whether or not that had any
- 16 role at all in the heat related illness and his
- 17 current condition?
- 18 A Well, I don't think it had a role, well, the
- 19 first injury definitely didn't have any role in him
- 20 having a heat injury the second time.
- 21 Q All right.
- 22 A They would not be related to each other.
- Q All right.
- 24 A I think the heat illness might, could have
- exacerbated that that's what had happened earlier.

- Some of the things do kind of make intuitive 1 2 sense a little bit in that he had this issue, you know, a couple of weeks earlier and this was a pretty 3 unique day based on his testimony his machine was not 4 5 functioning properly.
- Well, we'll talk about that. 6 0

- Α But it is connected only because if he was 7 doing all of this upper body work that he's not used 8 to on this particular day it does make sense that would kind of, you know, if you were going to reinjure 10 it on a particular day this would be the day because 11 he's doing all this unique work that he's not doing 12 over the last couple of weeks so that makes sense from 13 an overuse perspective. 14
- I mean, sure, there's certainly just a time 15 Q sequence that it's interesting perhaps? 16
- 17 Α He did a lot of upper body labor that 18 particular day, the day he had the heat illness, based on his testimony. 19
- Okay. But as far as whether or not his Q 20 condition, if he, whatever the condition may have 21 been, if it was exacerbated by this heat illness that 22 23
- 24 Α I don't know.
- You don't know, that really is just a guess? 25 0

- 1 A Yes.
- 2 Q Fair enough. As far as, Doctor, let's just
- 3 see if we can just talk really briefly about that
- 4 first incident.
- 5 As far as what was occurring that day with
- these bags of anchors, what was occurring, what wasn't
- 7 occurring, are you rendering any opinions about that,
- 8 Doctor?
- 9 A No, I really wasn't focused on that.
- 10 Q You're giving your specialty, you're here
- 11 today to talk about the heat related illness incident
- that Mr. Whitt has filed in this lawsuit?
- 13 A Prevention, recognition and treatment of
- 14 heat stroke I think is the focus of my testimony.
- 15 Q So you've authored a report which is
- 16 Exhibit 40, is that correct?
- 17 A Yes.
- 18 Q As we have talked about earlier this
- 19 contains all of your opinions and your bases for your
- 20 opinions?
- 21 A Yes.
- 22 Q And of course a lot of what we've already
- discussed here is applicable, has provided information
- for the opinions of what, that you've actually
- 25 expressed here in your report, right?

- 1 A Yes.
- Q Okay. So if we go through these what I'd
- 3 like to do is discuss then all of your opinions and
- 4 your bases for your opinions. In the way you break
- down your report there's, they seem to be in sections
- 6 called considerations.
- 7 A Yes.
- 8 Q What are you trying to accomplish by that,
- 9 what does that mean when you say consideration one,
- 10 consideration two, et cetera?
- 11 A Well, we set the stage in consideration one
- of the overview of what happened that day.
- And so then we tried to take a look at if he
- had a heat stroke, which I believe he did, what are
- the things that predispose someone to have a heat
- 16 stroke, so that's in consideration number two, those
- 17 are some of the most common things that alter
- 18 someone's exercise heat tolerance so that's why I
- 19 presented that there.
- 20 Consideration three are the things that I
- think may have been present that particular day for
- this particular case.
- 23 Q Okay.
- 24 A Then consideration four is specific to what
- 25 was present that maybe could have been different or

- 1 changed or optimized to maybe prevent it from
- 2 happening, recognized sooner or treated better.
- Q Okay.
- A Then five brings back some of the big ticket items to kind of make a synopsis of some of the things that I mentioned earlier.
- Six is kind of related to what I brought up

 8 earlier is if he is going to return to just the same

 9 exact work that he's done previously that I do believe

 10 that we should be sure his exercise heat tolerance is

 11 adequate. I mention that here because I don't know if

 12 that's completely recovered or adequate, just to make

 13 sure he's safe if he goes back then.
 - Then seven is just my summary.
- And then as you know I give my list of my prior experience as an expert.
- 17 Q Okay. In going through each of those then,
 18 item number one or consideration number one, you had
 19 indicated that the heat illness has been diagnosed by
 20 multiple physicians to be exertional heat stroke, did
 21 I read that correctly?
- 22 A You did.

Q Have you personally read the medical records
that were authored by the providers who actually saw

Mr. Whitt at the hospital and in the weeks and months

following?

- 2 A I would actually want to clarify that
- 3 statement from my opinion, that the heat illness was
- 4 referred to as a heat stroke by someone, I don't think
- 5 that there's evidence that a physician specifically
- 6 diagnosed a heat stroke. So my follow up in recent
- 7 reading makes me clarify that statement.
- Q Understood. Are you aware that Mr. Whitt
- 9 has retained an expert physician, Dr. O'Connor --
- 10 A Yes.
- 11 Q -- who has opined on that specific issue?
- 12 A Yes.
- Q You're aware that plaintiff's retained
- expert has expressed an opinion that Mr. Whitt did not
- suffer an exertional heat stroke, do you understand
- 16 that?
- 17 A I do. I think he may consider changing his
- mind when he has more information available to him
- 19 like some of the information that I have now but
- that's obviously up to his prerogative.
- But I did want to clarify that one thing,
- that it was not diagnosed but it was referred to as a
- 23 heat stroke in different medical records.
- 24 Q If Dr. O'Connor doesn't change his opinions
- 25 then your opinion is different than what

- Dr. O'Connor's opinion is, correct?
- 2 A That's correct.
- 3 Q Have you ever spoken with Dr. O'Connor?
- 4 A Yes.
- 5 Q When you speak with him?
- A Not about this case, no.
- 7 Q Okay.
- A He's a close friend of mine.
- 9 Okay.
- 10 A I know him quite well.
- Q Okay.
- 12 A I've known him for ten years. When you said
- have we spoke before, like thousands of time.
- 14 Him and I worked medical staff together at
- the marine corps marathon, we have treated many heat
- 16 strokes together. And him and I actually co-wrote the
- 17 U. S. army, the specific doctrine that dictates heat
- 18 stroke care in the U.S. army, him and I co-wrote the
- 19 document.
- 20 So we have a long history together, so I'm
- 21 disagreeing with a friend and colleague of mine.
- Q A respectful disagreement, right?
- 23 A Yes. But remember I do think Fran
- 24 specifically stated it was a severe heat exhaustion, I
- 25 think that was his opinion.

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And I said to you earlier, remember I said I
 1
        thought things were more solidified in my belief, that
 2
        it was a minor mild heat stroke and that has to do
 3
        with now the connectivity of what happened to Jared
 4
 5
        after. In the days and weeks after, so I think Fran
        has to also consider rendering with this new
 6
        information.
 7
                  And the new information is what you
 8
 9
        discussed earlier, it's the questions that, the
10
        questions and answers that were provided by
        Mr. Whitt's lawyer that are marked as Exhibits 41 and
11
        42, information that came from Priscilla Whitt and
12
        Brandon Peppers?
13
             Α
                  Yes.
14
15
                  Who is Brandon Peppers, do you know?
             Q
                  No. I am assuming it's a friend of the
             Α
16
17
        family.
                     THE WITNESS:
18
                                   Is that a friend of the
             family, Jim?
19
                     MR. COX:
                               Yes.
                                     It's Brandon that went
20
             with Priscilla to Chicago to help drive Jared
21
             home.
22
23
                     THE WITNESS:
                                   Yes.
24
                     MR. SCHMITT:
                                   Okay.
```

25 BY MR. SCHMITT:

- 1 Q Okay. So in regards to this specific
- indication you haven't talked to Dr. O'Connor about
- 3 this case?
- 4 A Not about the details, no.
- 5 Q I don't recall, did you provide
- 6 Dr. O'Connor, Dr. O'Connor's name or recommend him to
- 7 Jim Cox as someone that should become involved in this
- 8 case?
- 9 A I'm 99 percent sure I have. I've referred
- 10 Fran in a few different cases. Anytime someone asks
- for an MD, Fran is like literally the leading person
- in the U. S. army related to heat illnesses. So when
- someone asks me for a name that's a name I often will
- 14 give. So I do believe I did it but I don't actually
- 15 specifically remember that.
- 16 Q The consideration number one continues: The
- 17 contracture he experienced with his left limb at the
- time of the incident on June 28, 2012 likely played a
- 19 role in his current problem. Let me stop there.
- 20 Have you given me all the reasons and the
- 21 bases for that opinion already here in this
- deposition?
- 23 A Yes.
- Q All right. Then it says: And likely
- 25 exacerbated an earlier work incident. And now we have

- 1 already discussed that, that in your opinion it would
- 2 really be an educated guess?
- 3 A It's my guess but it's, there's not a, I
- 4 don't think anyone could give you a medical foundation
- 5 connecting those two.
- 6 Q Continuing it says: One of the critical
- 7 contributing factors to his medical complications was
- 8 a lack of proper health slash safety diligence
- 9 regarding the prevention, recognition and treatment of
- 10 his condition. Tell me what you mean.
- 11 A Sure. I think we kind of covered the
- treatments, I don't know if we need to get into all
- 13 that right now.
- 14 Q If we have already covered it then that's
- fine, we don't need to repeat it.
- 16 A I'm satisfied with that.
- 17 Q Until there's something you want to add,
- 18 Doctor?
- 19 A No, we went through that a lot. And
- 20 recognition is similar to some of the stuff I
- 21 mentioner to you before, the fact that if you weren't
- 22 sure if it was a heat stock or heat exhaustion I think
- you should have assumed the worst until proven
- otherwise, and I would have encouraged getting the
- temperature at the hospital.

- 1 Prevention we haven't covered yet. But it
- depends on where you want to cover it because it's all
- 3 the items in consideration four, most of those are
- 4 prevention items.
- 5 Q All right.
- 6 A There are some big ticket items that we may
- 7 want to spend more of our time on.
- 8 Q In item number four?
- 9 A Prevention in general.
- 10 Q We'll talk about those in a moment. It
- seems as though consideration number one is almost
- somewhat of a summary that you're going into detail
- 13 later?
- 14 A It sets the stage.
- 15 Q Okay. Then the last sentence in
- 16 consideration one: Additionally many factors in this
- 17 case show the intense thermoregulatory demands placed
- on this occupation were not appreciated and the health
- 19 safety policies in place in June 2012 to protect the
- 20 employee's health were grossly inadequate. Tell me
- 21 what you mean and are those going to be discussed
- 22 later?
- 23 A You have to tell me when you want to talk
- 24 about under prevention, we already have covered the
- recognition and treatment side, so that's part of that

- grossly inadequate, especially the treatment side of
- 2 things.
- Q Okay.
- 4 A Disappointed that he didn't continue on to
- 5 the hospital. But the prevention side we haven't
- 6 talked about.
- 7 Q Let's then talk about the prevention, we'll
- 8 talk about it now understanding then that's --
- 9 A It will be later.
- 10 Q -- later.
- 11 A Sure.
- 12 Q So tell me what you mean, what in your
- opinion should have been done in this case regarding
- 14 prevention?
- 15 A Sure. So there's approximately six key
- 16 items that affect someone's rise in body temperature.
- 17 So the two biggest items are the intensity of the
- 18 activity and the environmental conditions. So if you
- 19 look -- I have to just pull it up it. Just one
- 20 second.
- 21 All right. It's Exhibit 11. It's from
- 22 Linford and it's the quality safety meeting process
- 23 heat stress prevention. So it's kind is an overview
- 24 of their heat guidelines from Union Pacific. I want
- to make sure if there's a second, it also includes

- 1 Exhibit 12 a little bit.
- 2 Q Exhibit 12 or Exhibit 13?
- 3 A No, 11 and 12 mostly for --
- 4 Q All right.
- 5 A -- what I want to talk about.
- 6 Q Okay. And Exhibit 11 is a document that you
- 7 understand was authored by Union Pacific, it was a
- 8 program, some training that was provided?
- 9 A I think it came out about 15 months before
- 10 the incident.
- Q Okay.
- 12 A So the big take home here when you read this
- document is that there are no specific guidelines
- given to the supervisors here on how you would modify
- 15 work to rest ratios.
- 16 Work to rest ratios are kind of your key way
- 17 of protecting your employees or your soldiers or your
- athletes or whoever you're caring for because the work
- 19 to rest ratios brings into the two key items we just
- 20 mentioned.
- It modifies the intensity which I just said
- that's the key factor that drives the temperature up.
- 23 It modifies the intensity based on the environmental
- 24 conditions.
- 25 So just as an example, just so you know what

- 1 I'm talking about here, I brought a few others, just
- let me see, so the one I already shared with you,
- 3 Exhibit 44.
- 4 Q Yes.
- A And this just gives you an example of
 different wet bulb globe temperatures and how you
 would modify your work to rest ratio based on the
 environmental conditions. So obviously as it gets
 hotter and you're doing, if it gets hotter you make
 modifications and as your work load gets heavier you
 make modifications.
- 12 Q And this is from, at least according to what
 13 the document says it's from an OSHA technical manual?
- 14 A This is just an example.
- Q Okay.
- 16 A I'm just providing an example because in
 17 your, in this document here, so that's one example,
 18 I'm going to give you another one, this is one example
 19 from the military, so you might want to put an exhibit
 20 on this.
- MR. SCHMITT: We're going to mark this
 document you're now referring to as Exhibit 49,
 and it appears to be out of a document, page
 number 48, water requirements and soldier
 hydration.

- 1 (Defendant's Exhibit 49 for Identification.)
- 2 A I can get you the document where that comes
- 3 from.
- 4 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 5 Q That's some type of a military document?
- 6 A That was written by people in the military
- 7 as recommendations for soldiers. I'm giving an
- 8 example of wet bulb globe temperature, the
- 9 abbreviation is WBGT, that's the common term that's
- 10 used.
- 11 This is just an example again of easy work,
- 12 moderate work, hard work, and you make modifications
- as the temperature goes up.
- 14 Q And the modifications that you are trying to
- 15 make or that you are making are in regards to --
- 16 A Usually --
- 18 A Usually two big things, the amount of time
- 19 you're exercising, and the intensity. And so that's
- 20 why we call it the work to rest ratio.
- 21 Q The amount of time exercising and what is
- the other one?
- 23 A And the intensity. Amount of time and
- intensity.
- Q Okay.

- 1 A That's why you make modifications based on
- the environmental conditions and the work you have
- 3 planned for that day.
- 4 So this is another example, this is from
- 5 American College of Sports Medicine. This is from
- 6 their position statement.
- 7 MR. SCHMITT: We'll mark this document as
- 8 Exhibit 50.
- 9 (Defendant's Exhibit 50 marked for
- 10 Identification.)
- 11 A So it's similar again, I'm just giving you
- an example of increasing WBGT and how you make
- modifications as it gets hotter.
- 14 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 15 Q You used the term WBGT, what does that stand
- 16 for?
- 17 A That is the wet bulb globe temperature so
- 18 you saw that in the OSHA thing and that's kind of the
- 19 gold standard for knowing the environmental conditions
- and we can talk about that in a second, I'll explain
- 21 that.
- Q Where did you obtain Exhibits 49 and 50?
- 23 A That's a good question. Exhibit 49, I have
- 24 to get to you, that's from a military kind of
- 25 doctrine.

- 1 Q So you brought this document with you here
- 2 today?
- 3 A Yes. That's what I wanted to share with
- 4 you.
- Q Okay.
- A I will make a note to get it to you.
- 7 Military doctrine, WBGT, which means I'm also going to
- 8 need to get you this one here.
- 9 Q Exhibit 50?
- 10 A That's from I said from ACSM so I will get
- 11 you a copy of that.
- 12 Q These are documents you can just email?
- 13 A Yes.
- 14 Q Okay.
- 15 A Then this last one, as an example, this is
- 16 Georgia High School football, this is again wet bulb
- 17 globe temperature, and here you can see they changed
- the amounts and number, the amounts and length of rest
- 19 breaks based on the environmental conditions.
- 20 MR. SCHMITT: We'll mark this as Exhibit
- 21 51.
- 22 (Defendant's Exhibit 51 marked for
- 23 Identification.)
- 24 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 25 Q This was from a high school?

- 1 A The Georgia High School policies.
- Q Okay.
- 3 A So I gave you examples from military, from
- 4 work which is OSHA, I gave you examples from two
- 5 athletic settings.
- 6 Q So you've now presented us with examples of
- 7 these different --
- 8 A So this is what I mean in this document, a
- 9 supervisor who is not medically trained, because we
- 10 made the assumption at this work setting and we don't
- 11 have a medical professional.
- So we would want to provide guidance on,
- okay, if it is just environmental condition outside
- 14 what is the modification we need to make because the
- trained employee is not, he's not a heat physiologist,
- 16 he's not an MD, he's not trained specifically on how
- 17 to make modifications.
- 18 So like these OSHA guidelines are actually
- done pretty well just to give an example of some of
- 20 the things that should be considered adopting. So
- 21 this is by far the biggest thing in terms of
- 22 prevention that was not in place.
- Q All right. So let me talk in a little bit
- 24 greater detail, so the wet bulb globe temperature or
- WBGT?

- 1 A Yes.
- Q What is that?
- A Good question. Okay. So wet bulb globe
 temperature is three different temperatures combined
- 5 into one, so it's a calculation.
- So one is the ambient temperature, that's

 just the temperature you hear when you're listening to
- 8 the radio, and that's ten percent of the calculation.
- 9 Then there's the wet bulb temperature, that
- 10 factors in the humidity that's in the air, that's
- 70 percent of the calculation.
- Then there's the black globe temperature,
- that's the effect of the radiant heat from the sun,
- 14 and that's 20 percent.
- So then you have your three temperatures and
- then you can obviously do the percentage of that, you
- get an actual wet bulb globe temperature, and that's
- this number here, the calculation.
- 19 Q Okay.
- 20 A Let me tell you why there's a big advantage
- 21 to this, okay, so as you can see in some of these, for
- instance, I mentioned already Exhibit 12, and it's
- also part of Exhibit 11, it's not as pretty because
- it's not in color, but these are examples of heat
- 25 index, not wet bulb globe temperature. The reason why

- 1 WBGT is better is because if you note at the bottom of
- 2 the heat index recommendations it says --
- THE WITNESS: I don't know if you have to
- 4 type all this but it's in the text.
- A -- the heat index guides were devised for shady, light wind conditions and exposure to full sunshine can increase heat index values by up to 15
- 8 degrees Fahrenheit.
- 9 The benefit of WBGT is you don't have to
- 10 make that estimate, that globe temperature is giving
- 11 you that reading so you don't ever have to speculate
- is it sunny, is it hot, is it cloudy so that's taking
- 13 that into account.
- So that's why everyone, that's why most of
- the governing bodies of industry and military and
- 16 sports have gone to the WBGT recommendation because it
- 17 just provides a huge advantage so you don't have to
- 18 worry about kind of guesstimating and adding that into
- 19 the equation. So I did out some sample calculations
- 20 so I can go over with you from that day.
- 21 Q Okay.
- 22 A I thought this would be interesting.
- Q Here's what we'll do, these are handwritten
- 24 calculations that you prepared?
- 25 A Just remind me that I have to get

- 1 photocopies.
- Q We'll get photocopies of all of these.
- MR. SCHMITT: We will put an Exhibit 52
- 4 sticker on here.
- 5 (Defendant's Exhibit 52 marked for
- 6 Identification.)
- 7 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 8 Q Tell me what this is, Doctor.
- 9 A Sure. So I did a few different examples.
- 10 So the first one is 3:51 p.m. so this is close to
- 11 when, you know, he was having difficulties and it's
- during the hotter time of the day and I realize that's
- not how it was the whole day. It was approximately
- 14 100 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Q Where did you get that information?
- 16 A Actually from the most local weather station
- 17 I think said it was like 99 degrees at that time.
- 18 Q Okay.
- 19 A That's just to give you an idea because it's
- 20 only 10 percent of the equation, 99 would be like
- one-tenth difference, just giving it as an estimate
- 22 for you.
- Q So on that point on determining the actual
- temperature then your source, you're consulting the
- 25 National Weather Service?

1 A Yes.

Q And do you agree with me that the National Weather Service is a more accurate reflection of the actual conditions out there than say an employee estimating or guessing in their mind what the temperature might be or what the sun might be or what the wind might be? Do you agree with me?

A That's A loaded question. The, I would much rather have them done this on site, it's a whole separate discussion we can get into.

Q Right.

A You really always should get temperature assessment on site because you have a microenvironment and you have different issues to consider and I will just tell you like in military bases and in sports we always tell them to get the environmental conditions on the field or site you're going to be having to do your work in.

You don't want to rely on something that's six miles or ten miles away because, for instance, you know, even Union Pacific says in some of their materials that the temperature near the rail might be warmer than it is just in general because it heats up near the tracks.

25 Q Okay.

- 1 A In fact, one document said it might even be 2 30 degrees higher on a full sun day.
- 3 So just to give you an example, so it was
- 4 about 45 percent relative humidity when it was the
- 5 hottest time of the day. So when --
- Q What's your source for the 45 percent
- 7 relative humidity?
- 8 A That's the same place I'm getting this.
- 9 Q All right.
- 10 A For now the only document of temperatures I
- 11 have is the thing from O'Hare. I don't have anything
- 12 else.
- Q So just that we're clear though you agree
- 14 with me that the actual weather conditions that day,
- that a more accurate source of information and more
- 16 reliable is the weather source is the weather services
- 17 rather than employees who are estimating or guessing
- as to what their recollection is a year later?
- 19 A Right. There's no question that the local
- 20 weather service is better than someone's subjective
- 21 recollection.
- 22 Q Okay.
- 23 A I totally agree with that.
- 24 Q Okay.
- 25 A But the employees which is the second item

- for prevention, they should have gotten temperature
- 2 assessment on site, that should be a standard
- 3 operation.
- 4 Q All right. And the point being there
- 5 because there's been I think some testimony where
- 6 witnesses were asked, I'm just going to use a term
- 7 leading questions, that, well, could it have been 120
- or could it have been 20 degrees warmer or 30 degrees
- 9 warmer, do you agree with me that when you read that
- 10 testimony from these witnesses of course they're
- responding in a fashion but they're just using their
- 12 best educated guess?
- 13 A I didn't form any opinion based on their
- opinion of the temperature.
- Q Okay.
- 16 A It means nothing really to me right now.
- 17 Q So the source of information we need to look
- at in this case and rely is the information that's
- 19 available which is from the National Weather Service?
- 20 A That's correct, but it follows the fact that
- 21 I believe they failed by not getting on site
- temperatures.
- 23 Q Okay.
- 24 A That's an important consideration.
- Q We'll talk about that in a minute.

- 1 A So if you know the humidity and the 2 temperature outside then you can calculate this wet
- The black globe, this has to be a little bit
- of a guess, and I'm only using, remember I just read
- to you the heat index, that it said about 15 degrees
- 7 Fahrenheit higher at the bottom of that sheet?
- 8 Q Correct. When exposed to full sunshine and
- 9 it says can increase up to 15 degrees.

bulb temperature, so that's 82.

- 10 A Totally agree. That's why I put sunny here
- 11 because I have partly sunny also.
- 12 Q All right.

- 13 A This is just an example. So this is kind of
- 14 worst case scenario, this particular one. So the
- calculation comes out to be 90.4 in this circumstance.
- 16 Q What you've done is a weighted average of
- 17 each of these?
- 18 A Ten percent, 70 percent, 20 percent.
- 19 Q So ten percent ambient?
- 20 A Yes.
- Q Dry bulb?
- 22 A Yes.
- 23 Q Seventy percent wet bulb, and 20 percent,
- the radiant, which is black globe.
- How do they do that, black globe?

Good question. So that's a thermometer that 1 Α sits inside of a black vessel, so if it's really sunny 2 out it gets extremely hot inside that black vessel, 3 when it's cloudy, when it's cloudy outside, full cloud 4 5 coverage, your black globe temperature is the exact same as your dry bulb temperature. 6 And then I've had days doing data collection 7 in Georgia where I've had the black globe be 35 to 40 8 9 degrees warmer than the regular temperature, brutal 10 hot sunshine near blacktop. So it can be done. So this is 90.4 for the wet bulb globe 11 temperature, my first example, and you can go back 12 through these examples. In all of the examples this 13 puts you in an extremely stressful situation, 90.4 is 14 like cancel, make modifications, have many more rest 15 breaks, so this is an important, that's a high 16 17 temperature. 18 What does that 90.4 correlate to here in the documents that you have? 19 Α 20 21

This gives you an example here. So wet bulb globe temperature, 90 would be, for instance, here, if you were doing heavy work, this is what you would do

if you were doing --

22

23

24

25

MR. COX: Keep your voice up.

THE COURT REPORTER: And please slow

- 1 down.
- THE WITNESS: Sorry.
- 3 A If you were doing heavy work this is the
- 4 work to rest ratio you would have because you're over
- 5 86.
- 6 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 7 Q Let me just stop you there so when we read
- 8 later and for Mr. Cox's benefit so he can follow,
- 9 Exhibit 44 which is the Exhibit C from an OSHA
- 10 technical manual, what you've done is you've looked at
- these columns by work load, light, moderate, heavy,
- making the assumption if the individual is doing heavy
- work?
- 14 A No, it's just an example.
- 15 Q Oh.
- 16 A If you look at Jared's case, if the machine
- 17 was working properly that day he probably has light
- work, and in his particular situation on his day if it
- was malfunctioning for many hours it was probably
- 20 moderate work.
- 21 But either way I'm giving you an example,
- it's over 90 and we're into some of the more extreme
- things because we're at the bottom of this thing, we
- have more rest and less work.
- 25 Here you can see even if it's light work or

- if it's moderate work it's saying to have 75 percent
- 2 rest and 25 percent work each hour. So it gives you
- an idea, we're in an extreme stress situation.
- 4 So that's one example. Let me just do a few
- 5 so we can kind of pull this all together.
- Track, this is, you know from some of the
- 7 documents it says that it can be hotter near the
- 8 track, okay, so whether it be the rail causing the
- 9 heat, maybe the engines from the motors, from the
- 10 equipment, from all the metal from the equipment,
- 11 whatever it may be.
- So some, there was a document, and I'll pull
- it out if you need me to pull it out, this is I think
- one of the examples, there are a couple of examples,
- it says like the temperature should be, of the rail
- should be 30 degrees Fahrenheit hotter.
- Q What you're looking is the engineering track
- maintenance field handbook?
- 19 A I think you may have given that a number
- 20 already somewhere.
- 21 Q Exhibit 37?
- 22 A There you go.
- Q But what it says is that the rail
- temperature, in other words, the temperature of the
- 25 steel rail will be approximately a 30 degree increase

- on a sunny day?
- 2 A Yes.
- 3 Q But you agree with me that someone that is 4 standing let's say 20 feet away from that rail, of
- 5 course they're not experiencing a 30 degree increase
- in temperature, are they?
- 7 A Totally agree.
- 8 Q Even somebody, Doctor, somebody that's
- 9 sitting on a machine that's up in the air and
- isolated, insulated from the area of the rail which is
- on the ground itself, you agree with me that an
- operator in sitting inside of a machine that's feet
- above the surface is not going to be exposed to a 30
- degree increase in temperature, ambient temperature?
- 15 A It may not. That's the thing, the person
- 16 operating the machine has other environmental stresses
- 17 because most of those machines are all metal and that
- metal is going to be extremely hot and they also will
- 19 have engines and that engine is producing heat.
- 20 So we don't know exactly what the
- 21 temperature is while he is sitting on this machine or
- while he is potentially using a sledgehammer to put,
- you know, to do the application of the things
- 24 manually.
- 25 But the point is is that in that small

- 1 environment there near the rail it's warmer than the
- 2 environmental conditions, we don't know the extent of
- 3 how much warmer. It's warmer.
- 4 Q Warmer than the ambient air?
- 5 A Correct, it's warmer than the ambient. We
- don't know the extent. If he's ten feet in the air
- 7 it's probably not as much, if he's two feet above the
- ground it's probably hotter.
- 9 Q And if you have breezes, wind that's
- 10 available that's going to provide a more rapid rate of
- 11 cooling, reduction in ambient --
- 12 A It doesn't reduce temperature.
- 13 Q The exposure?
- 14 A Yes, it could help the person though with
- 15 cooling.
- 16 Q Okay.
- 17 A So that's just an example, I'm only doing
- 18 the examples to just lay the foundation.
- 19 Q Yes.
- 20 A So what I did to be fair, I only went up 15
- 21 degrees because it gives an example of 30 degrees so I
- didn't go to the extreme, I only went up 15 degrees.
- 23 And I did the same humidity again because it's still
- the same outside and now the calculated wet bulb would
- 25 be 94 --

1 MR. COX: How much?
2 THE WITNESS: 94, and we'll get the sheet
3 to you, Jim.

A And then the black globe here, I just did
the same thing again approximately but I went with 125
here, that's ten degrees above this one. Here I went
15 degrees, it's definitely going to be warmer on a
full sunny day. I gave you examples where it's not
full sun so it doesn't go up as much.

But the point is is this is just an
extremely high number, 102.3, it's off the charts,
this doesn't even exist on these recommendations. So
this is an example of it warm if you factor in some of
the track heat.

Here I have two examples in partly sunny so partly sunny brings down the extent that the black globe temperature is above because remember in your little chart it said it goes up 15 degrees in full sun so I did half of that in partly sunny.

20 BY MR. SCHMITT:

Q Okay.

22 A Make sense?

Q When we talk about this Exhibit 12 where it says in exposure to full sun what that means is that the employee is exposed, is standing outside and is

- 1 exposed to full sunlight, full sunshine?
- 2 A Yes.
- 3 Q In other words, if that employee does not
- 4 have any type of protection from, for example, shade
- from a tree, right?
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 Q Or shade from a canopy that might be on the
- 8 equipment that they're sitting on, right?
- 9 A No question.
- 10 Q Or even a hard hat, for example, that will
- 11 provide some shade?
- 12 A To a point, actually probably stores more
- heat than it helps you prevent the sun but that's
- 14 another issue.
- 15 Q All right.
- 16 A But there's no question shade can be
- 17 provided by the vehicle, shade can be provided by the
- trees, and the cloud cover might provide shade.
- 19 Q Even the shade, for example, if an
- individual is sitting in a seat that won't have a back
- 21 rest --
- 22 A Yes.
- Q -- that portion of the body is being shaded?
- 24 A There's no question. I'm giving you
- 25 examples here. Based on his testimony it sounds like

- he was having to do more manual labor than he normally does and he was out in full sun for portions of the
- 3 day.
- 4 Q How much was he actually out in full sun?
- 5 A I don't know if anybody has that estimate
- 6 but at multiple times through the day it seemed like
- 7 he had to get off of his machine, do manual labor, get
- 8 back on, get back off, so we might have to ask like
- 9 Jared the exact time that was spent on each of those
- 10 tasks.
- 11 Q All right. Is that significant, is that
- important to you to know how much he actually was off
- that machine and whether or not it was perhaps just
- 14 simply an infrequent occurrence because there are
- other individual laborers who are following up behind
- 16 his machine to the extent there's a problem, they're
- the ones actually applying?
- MR. COX: Wait a minute. Form and
- 19 foundation.
- 20 A He, Jared's testimony gives an indication
- that he had to frequently do that last process that
- the machine was not properly doing. So I don't know
- the exact amount.
- The point is is that I said, I even gave
- 25 credit before, if he never left his vehicle it's light

- 1 work for the day. He was doing some labor like this
- 2 so I would consider it a moderate effort day.
- 3 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 4 Q At the most?
- 5 A At the most, yes. But even these kind of
- 6 environmental conditions that we're in these still
- 7 require attention for light or moderate work.
- 8 But based on the afternoon that he describes
- 9 and like I did this with everybody, I assumed every
- single person was telling the truth when they were
- doing their deposition, every person.
- 12 So when Jared's testimony is that afternoon
- that he was laboring more one than he typically does.
- And just one thing to bring up like in the Shea
- 15 report, he mentioned that why did only Jared have a
- 16 heat illness that day.
- 17 Q Why was it only Jared?
- 18 A Yes, why was it only Jared.
- 19 But it makes a lot of sense, if Jared
- doesn't normally, for two weeks he doesn't have, he's
- 21 not having to do all this labor, and on this
- 22 particular day the machine is not working properly and
- he's doing a lot more labor than he normally does so
- 24 it might have went from the mild to the moderate day.
- 25 Plus based if you look on the previous like

- 1 four or five or six days this was the hottest day like
- in the last week so you have extreme stress and you
- 3 have this unique work load that he hadn't had
- 4 previously.
- 5 So if we assume everything that we take at
- face value that makes sense to me. So I did partly
- 7 sunny, we're still in some big conditions right here
- 8 in terms of WBGT, you can see this, 89 or 101.
- 9 What I did here also as I looked at the
- 10 morning temps because I know Shea made some notes that
- 11 he was thinking I was making the difference that it
- was brutally hot all day which I wasn't, it's the
- afternoon obviously is the hottest time of the day.
- But it was still pretty hot, it's 93 degrees
- at 11 o'clock in the morning for the dry bulb which
- is, you know, a hot day, 47 percent humidity,
- 17 speculating here full sun, I mean you could obviously
- do the same thing for partly sunny, all indications
- 19 were that it was either partly sunny or sunny based on
- 20 people's feedback. So just giving you examples here.
- Q All right. So this WBGT that we've been
- discussing, you said that the military and sports
- industry, sporting athletes are beginning to adopt
- 24 this?
- 25 A And the OSHA guidelines are based on that.

- 1 Q Okay.
- 2 A So industry, military, and athletics.
- 3 Q Well, OSHA does not mandate that the
- 4 industry use the WBGT.
- A No, I'm not saying that, I'm just giving you
- an example of their recommendations based on this.
- 7 Q Well, there's a reference from OSHA in
- 8 Exhibit number 44, if an entity or individual wants to
- 9 use the WBGT, but you're not saying that OSHA is
- 10 requiring --
- 11 A I actually don't honestly know what OSHA
- 12 requires.
- 13 Q All right.
- 14 A I'm giving you an example of something they
- produced and this is the gold standard, I'm going to
- 16 give you even an example of a couple of weeks ago.
- 17 FIFA, which is capital F-I-F-A, that's the governing
- 18 body for soccer worldwide for the Brazil World Cup
- that's coming up, if the WBGT goes over a certain
- level they have to insert an extra halftime into each
- 21 half.
- 22 Q Okay.
- 23 A I'm just saying this is the momentum of
- 24 medicine and science right now, it's just a better
- tool than heat index because you don't have the

- 1 arbitrary factor of do I add in ten, do I add in five,
- 2 because when you get the environmental, you know, if
- 3 the training crew is working in an area that is
- 4 heavily shaded, if the guy who is in charge of that is
- 5 getting those conditions right then they might be able
- to handle much more work because full shade might take
- 7 out all the effects of the sun.
- 8 But then when they move in, they might have
- 9 a three hour time of full sun, they might have to back
- 10 off in that time frame. It is just so arbitrary.
- 11 Q Certainly the type of exertional activity
- that an athlete like a soccer player, we've all seen
- what a soccer player does by watching an event, a lot
- of running, maximum exertion, do you agree with me
- that the type of exertional activity an athlete
- 16 undertakes is significantly more than what an average
- 17 worker, laborer will perform?
- 18 A Definitely. It just depends on what the
- laborer is doing because there are laborers that can
- 20 do much higher intensity than a football player or
- 21 soccer player.
- 22 But if you're talking about specifically
- Jared I agree with you that his typical work day I
- 24 would put in light load. But the one really unique
- 25 thing about his situation is he had a unique stress,

- 1 that he did a lot more labor that afternoon than he
- was accustomed to, and if you combine that with warmer
- 3 conditions than he was used to it wouldn't take a
- 4 rocket scientist to predict that's the guy who's going
- 5 to have a heat problem that day because you have a
- 6 very unique stress for that particularly individual
- 7 that day.
- 8 Q And certainly individuals in the military
- 9 and in basic training and boot camp, all of the
- 10 activities that a military soldier will undertake
- 11 certainly they have more exertional activity than an
- 12 average laborer would, agreed?
- 13 A It's funny you said average laborer because
- I just happen to know a lot of laborers that have
- 15 brutally hard work.
- 16 Q We'll talk about that in a minute but on a
- general basis would you agree with me just the general
- 18 manual labor employee --
- 19 A It depends, because you could have a
- 20 construction worker, you could have a firefighter that
- could have were higher labor than some other --
- 22 Q Sure, a firefighter going up and down the
- ladder carrying heavy equipment?
- 24 A Just out in the mountains fighting forest
- 25 fires.

Q Sure. As far as type of work that Mr. Whitt is actually performing, operating a machine, do you have an understanding of what he's actually doing other than what he's simply saying in his deposition that he's doing, I mean -- let me stop there.

Do you have any understanding of what he's actually doing other than what his version is as he has expressed in his deposition?

A Jim explained to me at length in one phone conversation because I asked like what is the exact process of the person who does this job and that gave me a better understanding and also obviously reading through Jared's description.

Q So what did Mr. Cox tell you?

A Well, he kind of just went through all the components of what someone has to do when he uses that machine but the big part for me is what would be different when the machine was dysfunctional, the fact that he had to get off and, you know, three or four strokes each time to get each one in to be satisfactory to move on to the next one. So getting out of your seat, doing that labor and getting back in, and you're doing it as you're going up the line.

I'm not claiming it's like a soccer player playing in a 100 degree temperature. But I'm just

- 1 saying it took it from what was very likely a
- 2 typically light work load for him and definitely
- 3 ramped it up to possibly be a moderate workday for
- 4 him, and then you combine it with maybe being, you
- 5 know, eight to ten degrees warmer than it had been on
- 6 previous days. And then you have, I don't know what
- 7 it might have been for him, maybe a ten hour shift
- 8 that he worked that day, you know, from 6:30 or seven
- 9 in the morning up to four o'clock.
- 10 Q You're not testifying that this WBGT is a
- 11 standard that is required in the rail industry, are
- 12 you?
- 13 A No. It's something I would suggest that
- 14 they just consider doing on site.
- 15 Q All right. If, for example, it's determined
- 16 by WBGT analysis or just otherwise by looking at the
- 17 weather forecast and seeing what's occurring that in
- 18 the event of a hotter day there should be
- 19 accommodations or changes made to recognize that
- environment, is that really what you're saying?
- 21 A That's true. Because they do have an
- ability to make accommodations. If they get into what
- they consider their high heat procedures then that
- 24 would be when the heat index is in the red zone, so if
- 25 look again at Exhibit 12 --

- 1 Q All right.
- 2 A -- it's a little hard to distinguish between
- 3 the orange and red there but if it gets into the red
- 4 zone then they follow these precautions that are on
- 5 page 11 of Exhibit 11.
- As an example they say take a five minute
- 7 break every hour, that's just one example, and I know
- 8 it might have been a little hard on my opinion, that
- 9 is an example of what I meant by grossly inadequate.
- 10 A five minute break within an hour under high heat
- conditions doesn't fall in line with any of the
- 12 recommendations I brought here today from OSHA or the
- military or sports.
- 14 Q You're talking about then compared to
- 15 Exhibit 12 extreme danger, the red section?
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 Q What your opinion is is that if that's all
- that was done, only take a rest break for at least
- 19 five minutes every hour?
- 20 A I'm speaking strictly of the rest to work
- 21 ratio since we were kind of hovering on that topic.
- 22 Q Okay.
- 23 A That is completely insufficient under
- 24 extreme weather conditions. I mean, you would
- 25 probably, in those kind of extreme conditions you

- 1 would want ten minutes per 30 minutes, that's the most
- 2 extreme, that's the highest part of our chart.
- 3 Q Is that true, that you would want ten
- 4 minutes of rest?
- 5 A At least ten every 30.
- 6 Q Okay. At least ten minutes of rest per 30
- 7 minutes of work in the event according to NOAA's
- 8 National Weather Service heat index chart there is an
- 9 extreme danger, right?
- 10 A I'm assuming you're doing like light to
- 11 moderate work since we're talking about Jared's
- 12 situation. That would be different if you're doing
- 13 heavy work.
- 14 Q Okay.
- 15 A So we're nowhere near what actually, I mean,
- 16 this recommendation is just inadequate, five minutes
- 17 per hour in extreme danger situations.
- Q What is your source, we probably marked it
- 19 but if you can identify for me what is your source for
- your opinion that the rest break should have been ten
- 21 minutes every 30 minutes?
- 22 A Well, part of it is my own knowledge, I
- mean, as an expert, plus Exhibits 44, 49.
- MR. COX: Tell me what 44 is.
- MR. SCHMITT: That's Appendix C from

1 OSHA.

2 A Exhibit 49 which is the one I mentioned from

3 the military before. Exhibit 50 which is from the

4 ACSM. And Exhibit 51 which is from the Georgia High

5 School one. Those are just examples, we can get many

6 more.

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7 BY MR. SCHMITT:

8 Q Okay. If Union Pacific had in fact had a

procedure where employees were taking a ten minute

10 rest break for every 30 minutes of work and if

11 Mr. Whitt had done that what would have been the

12 outcome?

13 A There's lot of benefits to having longer

break periods. One, it gives you a chance for your

body temperature to come down while you're not

16 working; second, it gives you a chance to have more

time to hydrate which could optimize someone's

18 hydration status during the course of the day.

So those are -- the biggest reason is you're

keeping the person's temperature down because now

21 you're resting for 20 minutes out of that hour.

22 O In your opinion would it have made any

difference in regards to Mr. Whitt?

A It absolutely could have prevented a heat

25 stroke from taking place.

- Q When you say could have meaning that it's possible it could have and possible it may not have made any difference?
- A I believe it's likely the heat stroke would have been prevented.
- Q Okay. Is it important -- well, before I get to that, are there any other, I guess we were on the topic of --
- 9 A Was kind of work to rest ratio, the high
 10 heat procedures because I thought it was inadequate,
 11 the work to rest ratios --
- 12 THE COURT REPORTER: I really can't even understand you.
- 14 THE WITNESS: Sorry. It's my fault.
- 15 A We were on the topic of work to rest ratios,
 16 so that's why I got to the high heat procedures which
 17 is part of Exhibit 11 because I felt that those were
 18 inadequate.

19 And if you look at the charts here you have
20 like what was that particular day in the afternoon so
21 if you went to down from 99 degrees and you said 45
22 percent humidity, we're definitely in orange but we
23 could easily be in red if you factor in the sun, the
24 black globe part of it or if you factor in the heat of
25 the rail.

- So either of the things that cause people to 1 kick this up a notch you would easily be in the red 2 zone of this. And I think that they thought they were 3 like they had an extreme danger day from some of the 4 5 testimony that I was getting from some of the supervisors. 6 BY MR. SCHMITT: 7 Well, then if we base it on the evidence 0 8 9 that we know of, a 99 degree day at 45 percent 10 temperature --Right. 11 Α -- or humidity, excuse me. 12 Q But you have to go 99 plus 15 because It's 13 telling you to add in 15 on sunny days. 14 Q For a person that's in full sunshine? 15 But the full sun also affects of everything 16 17 around you, that's why that calculation is there, it 18 makes your vehicle hotter, it makes the rail hotter, it makes the ground hotter. 19 A lot of the heat you're getting is actually 20 being reflected from the ground so even though the top 21 is covering you you're getting the effect of the sun 22
- Q But to be fair this is a document published by the government, OSHA, right?

from its reflection from the ground.

- 1 A Yes.
- 2 Q And what it's saying is that exposure to
- full sunshine, so someone that is not exposed to full
- 4 sunshine is not going to be, you do not need to
- 5 increase this heat index value by 15 degrees
- 6 Fahrenheit, correct?
- 7 A That's why I tried to give you examples
- 8 before to give you the benefit of the doubt.
- 9 Q That's fine.
- 10 A Let's just say half it of so
- 11 seven-and-a-half.
- 12 Q And of course this document says up to 15
- degrees, I mean, it doesn't say --
- 14 A And I just gave an example, it could go up
- 15 30 or 40.
- 16 Q Well, it could be one degree?
- 17 A There's no question.
- 18 Q Okay.
- 19 A If it was a sunny day out it is affecting
- 20 the entire thermal load.
- 21 Q And certainly you believe OSHA would have
- been aware and taken that into consideration when it's
- authored in this document, right?
- 24 A I already mentioned that heat index is an
- 25 inferior method, that's why you use WBGT because you

- 1 then don't ever have to predict this.
- Q Well, certainly Exhibit 12 is a document
- 3 that's, heat index is a document that was published by
- 4 OSHA?
- 5 A I know. That's why I'm explaining to you
- 6 that they have also OSHA recommendations for WBGT.
- 7 Q All right.
- A I'm just saying if I were made the boss
- 9 tomorrow I would say we're not going to use heat index
- anymore.
- 11 Q Okay.
- 12 A We're going to use WBGT.
- Q What percentage of the industry in general
- 14 uses WBGT?
- 15 A I don't think there's a study that's been
- 16 published that I could tell you that.
- 17 Q Would you agree with me that it's probably
- in the significant minority?
- 19 A I know the military uses it.
- 20 Q Sure.
- 21 A And sports is moving towards it a lot and
- 22 like all those firefighter situations, they use it.
- Q Any other industry that you know of that's
- using it, other than what you've just mentioned,
- 25 military, sports and firefighters?

- 1 A What is OSHA suggesting they use this for in 2 this circumstance?
- 3 Q I'm asking.
- 4 A I don't know.
- 5 Q Okay.
- A I'm here as the expert to tell you what's the best thing to take care of the employees.
- Q Okay.

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- 9 A But even if you, even if you said it wasn't
 10 sunny out you're still in the orange zone here and we
 11 haven't factored in the heat of the rails and the
 12 possibility of it being sunny outside, even if you
 13 were in the orange five minutes per hour is not
 14 enough.
 - Q Let's talk about that. If you're in the orange of the OSHA's heat index which is titled using the heat index, a guide for employers, so an employer being guided by OSHA, if you have using the criteria that OSHA is showing, temperature, humidity that is in the danger, what should be done in that situation?
 - A You would probably have, the other one is 20 minutes break in an hour, you would probably have ten minutes break in an hour if it's light or moderate.
- Q Okay.
- MR. COX: What was that answer?

- 1 THE WITNESS: You would have at least ten
- 2 minutes if it was light or moderate work.
- 3 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 4 Q Per hour?
- 5 A Per hour. So I would probably say like ten
- to 15 minutes, and the other one would probably be 20
- 7 to 25 minutes if you were in the red.
- 8 Q But we're talking about the category of
- 9 danger?
- 10 A Right, like I said if it was orange I would
- 11 probably say it would be ten to 15 minutes you would
- 12 not be exercising each hour.
- 2 So ten to 15 minutes of rest, what's the
- source and the basis for that opinion, that it would
- 15 be ten to 15 minutes?
- 16 A All the same ones I just said before because
- they all go into this range as well.
- 18 Q But the sources that we're talking about are
- sources from military, from sporting events, and then
- 20 --
- A OSHA.
- 22 Q Well --
- 23 A We can get a lot of other industry
- 24 guidelines for WBGT.
- 25 Q I'm just asking for your opinion, what the

- 1 source is of it?
- 2 A That would be the same numbers that I gave
- 3 you for the high heat danger. For the extreme danger
- 4 it would be the same as danger.
- 5 Q What would be the same for danger as it is
- for extreme danger, oh, the sources?
- 7 A Yes.
- 8 Q Okay. That we've already discussed?
- 9 A Same exhibit numbers.
- 10 Q All right. Any other bases or opinions,
- 11 Doctor, in regards to this heat to rest ratio that we
- 12 haven't talked about?
- 13 A I don't know. That was one of the big
- 14 factors that I wanted to discuss.
- 15 Q Okay. As far as what was being done that
- 16 day and you said that by way of heat to rest ratio,
- 17 and you've expressed your opinion, is it also a good
- 18 practice for employers to, for example, reduce work
- load, accommodate work load when it's going to be
- 20 hotter that day or being up higher?
- 21 A That's the whole point of this is to have
- less time that you're exercising in the day when it's
- 23 hotter outside.
- 24 Q All right.
- 25 A That's why I just said their guidelines of

- 1 five minutes per hour in the extreme danger is
- 2 extremely dangerous recommendation to have people only
- 3 have five minutes off each hour.
- 4 Q Well, but the directive actually was that it
- was a mandatory five minute break every hour, you
- 6 understand that?
- 7 A That what's really inadequate, five minutes
- 8 isn't enough time.
- 9 Q Was Union Pacific's directive that every
- 10 employee also take rest breaks whenever that employee
- wanted to, was that a good practice?
- 12 A Yes.
- Q Was it a good practice of Union Pacific to
- 14 direct all of its employees including Mr. Whitt to
- drink plenty of water?
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 Q Was it a good practice for Union Pacific to
- have provided Mr. Whitt and its employees with all the
- 19 water that they wanted to drink?
- 20 A Yes.
- Q Was it a good practice of Union Pacific to
- instruct Mr. Whitt to go into the cooling station and
- cool down whenever he felt that he wanted to?
- 24 A Yes.
- MR. COX: Foundation.

- 1 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- Q Was it a good practice of Union Pacific to
- 3 direct Mr. Whitt to go into any of the air conditioned
- 4 trucks that were being positioned throughout the work
- 5 area whenever he wanted to?
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 MR. COX: Foundation.
- 8 A I was focused on that one item. The bosses
- 9 should make specific modifications based on the
- 10 environmental conditions to protect the workers, the
- 11 work to rest ratio.
- 12 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- Q So all these other practices were good
- 14 practices but in your opinion the other thing that
- should have been done is there should have been
- 16 regardless of telling an employee take a rest break
- 17 whenever you want and for however long you want, Union
- 18 Pacific should have mandated that it be at least ten
- minutes, ten to 15 minutes per hour?
- 20 A Absolutely. The supervisors have to take
- 21 control because the workers might not feel comfortable
- taking a break, a directive is different, if they are
- 23 told they have to stop and have certain rest breaks
- that's definitely a much better way of protecting
- 25 them.

- Q Well, but now you're interjecting a
 subjective guess, really, what workers thought or may
 thing or don't think?
- A That's based on my experience, everyone is going, for instance, everyone can interpret how they're feeling differently. For instance, a lot of people who have heat stroke do not have warning signs beforehand. Okay.

One of the things that Shea had brought up 9 10 in his thing, that he should have early warning signs, Jared's fault for not stopping, on page nine. That's 11 clearly somebody who just doesn't understand heat 12 stroke because a lot of people have heat stroke, the 13 first time they realize it's a problem is when their 14 face is on the ground and they're unconscious. They 15 have no warning signs beforehand. 16

So you can't just rely on your workers feeling like I need a break, I don't need a break, you have to have a directive to protect them with the breaks so that you can prevent that from happening in the first place.

- Q But isn't an individual, the individual employee is the person most knowledgeable about his or her own body?
- 25 A There's no question but you have to

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- understand in heat stroke not everyone has an early
 warning sign.
- Q Okay.

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- A By having the rest break you protect that
 from happening because you are getting their
 temperature down automatically over the set period of
 time.
- Q Well, is heat stroke, is there a progression
 of heat related illnesses, in other words, does it
 progress from I'm a little hot versus as we go up the
 scale?
 - A That's a great question. That's one of the great misnomers, it's like someone is going to have a more mild heat situation before they have a heat stroke and that's completely not true.
 - You could have an exertional heat stroke and be unconscious and never have had a heat cramp or heat syncope or heat exhaustion beforehand.
- 19 When I was 16 I suffered a heat stroke
 20 myself running in a race and besides for just, I was
 21 running the best race in my life and besides for being
 22 really thirty because it was the last lap of a 25 lap
 23 race and feeling warm but it was really hot outside
 24 and you always feel warm when it's really hot outside
 25 I collapsed unconscious on the track.

- So I didn't have any indication before that 1 2 I was, that something was wrong with me, and that happens in a lot of heat stroke cases. 3 What percentage of heat stroke cases will an 4 5 individual experience no signs on symptoms before they suffer the heat stroke? 6 That's a great question. It's something 7 Α from the science perspective, we would love to really 8 9 understand that better. A couple of studies that have 10 looked at that said about 50 percent of people don't have any prodromal signs and symptoms before heat 11 stroke. 12 Prodromal? 13 0 Α Prodromal is just something you feel 14 beforehand. 15 And 50 percent of individuals suffering heat 16 stroke have no signs or symptoms before? 17 18 Nothing that made them indicate it was a heat stroke, nothing different than a normal exercise 19 session in the heat. Do you know what I mean? 20 Sure. We've all worked outside or exercised 21 Q 22 23 Nothing that triggers that person to think Α
- I have to really follow up that statement.

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that this is different or it's a heat stroke.

The problem is with that is I don't 1 completely believe that number, it might be lower than 2 50, the reason is is that people who have a heat 3 stroke and die, we don't get a chance to ask them if 4 they have prodromal sign or symptom so we lose that 5 data plan, does that make sense, you know, because 6 obviously they lose that opportunity. 7 So the most extreme cases, the ones that are 8 9 most likely to die, they might have had the prodromal symptoms but we'll never know. 10 But the take home message is that 11 supervisors who can consult with the experts in 12 industry and in medicine need to give the directive to 13 their employees about what is an appropriate work to 14 rest ratio in a work environment and then have the 15 appropriate work guideline in place like one of these 16

and then you also say to them, you know what, if you're not feeling well you can still take breaks in addition to these, it's up to you.

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But we're going to definitely protect you for these number of minutes during these hot conditions because we know sometimes that heat stroke might present and the person might not be able to prevent it.

But even in your situation with the heat 0

stroke you felt hot before you suffered it?

Α There's no question. But in every race I've 2 run in the heat in my life before or since I also felt 3

really hot, running hot weather races. 4

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So there wasn't something like I was, you 5 know, I had a severe headache or severe dizziness or 6 something was, you know, I did feel oppressively hot 7 but I have felt oppressively hot in my running life 8 running in the summertime.

> But the point is even will the employee always be able to interpret the seriousness of signs and symptoms, you know what I mean, we can't assume that they're all going to have that high level of knowledge like, oh, this is something I need to be worried about.

That's just a good work to rest ratio. As I mentioned before, remember the intensity and environmental conditions are the two key factors that drive temperature up.

So with good work to rest ratios we take both of those into account on the same policy because, one, we're making modifications of the amount of work they're going do based on the environmental conditions. So it's very, very protective.

I mentioned there's other factors that drive

- temperature up, and one is hydration, and I believe
- they did a great job of keeping him hydrated; another
- 3 is equipment or uniform, and I believe that was not an
- 4 issue in this particular case really; one is heat
- 5 acclimatization.
- 6 Q You have no issues, no concerns or
- 7 criticisms about that?
- 8 A He had been exercising in, you know, pretty
- 9 moderate heat in the weeks leading up to that so he
- 10 was probably in a pretty good situation, the thing
- that was unique is he may have had a new stress that
- day because he was doing more labor than usual so he
- might not have been acclimatized for that, but overall
- I feel like he was ready to exercise in the heat.
- 15 Q You felt that Union Pacific's conduct in
- 16 this case in regards to Mr. Whitt specifically in
- 17 regards to heat acclimatization was appropriate?
- 18 A Yes.
- 19 Q Okay.
- 20 A So that's why I didn't criticize. They have
- a heat acclimatization policy in the high heat
- 22 quidelines.
- Q Okay.
- 24 A You didn't hear me say anything about
- 25 hydration, I felt it was fine.

- 1 Q Oaky.
- 2 A So I think I hit five there, right, because
- 3 equipment, heat acclimatization, hydration, intensity,
- 4 and environmental conditions. Those are five so far.
- 5 Q Okay.
- 6 A The other one is just something we call
- 7 individual factors that can affect someone's heat
- 8 tolerance and, for example, that could be like
- 9 medications they're on, it could be if they're sick
- 10 that particular day, it could be previous history of
- 11 heat illnesses, so I don't think that was an issue in
- this particular case at all.
- 13 Q Okay.
- 14 A I don't think he brought anything to the
- table that changed his susceptibility that day for
- 16 heat illnesses.
- 17 Q All right. Is it better for an individual
- to adapt to the heat, for example, to eat fruits and
- vegetables rather than let's say double cheeseburgers?
- 20 A First of all, no one has ever done a study
- 21 to prove that one way or the other.
- The double cheeseburger would never be a
- hinderance to someone exercising in the heat if
- they're hydrating properly. You can still drink
- 25 plenty of water and still have your double

- 1 cheeseburgers.
- 2 Q Okay.
- A And that would not change your risk. If you
- 4 tell me he's having double cheeseburgers and not
- 5 having any fluids then that's the risk, but just
- 6 because you're having double cheeseburgers that
- 7 doesn't change your risk profile for heat stroke. You
- 8 could have double cheeseburgers and then have a water
- 9 bottle next to you all day and be totally fine.
- 10 Q Was it a good practice that Union Pacific
- 11 was following that day in providing fruits and
- vegetables, making those available for the employees
- there working?
- 14 A Yes.
- Q Was it also a good practice of Union Pacific
- 16 that it advised Mr. Whitt and all of the employees to
- 17 be watching out for each other and observe each other
- and what they're doing?
- 19 A Yes. I definitely like the idea of the
- 20 buddy system, I'm not sure if it was like tightly in
- 21 place for Jared's case in this particular situation.
- 22 I don't know if anyone could identify who his buddy
- was on that particular day.
- Q Well, but there were managers --
- 25 A I'm not saying there weren't people who

- crossed paths with him during the course of the day and kept checking up on him.
- 3 Q But was it a good practice?
- A We're not making any claim here that, I
 guess I get the sense that Union Pacific cares about
 its employees. I'm just saying, you asked me what I
- 7 would do to enhance the situation.
- There's three key focus items: One is I

 definitely would have work to rest ratios based on

 environmental conditions, that's just kind of a gold

 standard; second is I would have a plan in place to

 aggressively treat heat stroke whether it be you're

 transporting the person or you're cooling them on

 site.
- Q Okay.
- 16 A Like we say before if you're 100 miles from
 17 a hospital you're cooling on site, if you're one mile
 18 from the hospital you're taking him to the hospital,
 19 so you have to have a plan that makes sense.
- 20 Q That's item number two because now you're
 21 giving me --
- 22 A Global.
- Q -- these are overall your global opinions:

 Number one, the work to rest ratios which we have

 discussed; number two, adequately treating heat stroke

- as you've just discussed?
- 2 A And third without question the item that a
- 3 supervisor should never overrule a colleague who's
- 4 caring for somebody who's on site who recognizes that
- 5 something is serious.
- 6 So I'm not pointing blame as a global thing
- for Union Pacific, like I like their focus on
- 8 hydration, I like their focus on that people thought
- 9 that this might be a day that there might be a risk,
- 10 they were thinking of it, so there were things that
- 11 were in place but there are things that I think put
- Jared in particular risk on those three particular
- 13 items.

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- 14 Q Let's talk about the third one. The first
- two are certainly within your expertise?
- 16 A Yes, we have covered that, right.
- 17 Q But this third one now that you've
- interjected, and I guess this is maybe the remaining
- 19 area of the report talking about supervisors should
- 20 never overrule a colleague?
- 21 A That just related to a heat stroke.
- 22 Q Okay.
- 23 A Because the heat stroke case like because if
- 24 they're not on site the person who is there has to be
- 25 the one who you believe, not the victim, do you know

- 1 what I'm saying.
- 2 So you have to rely on the person who's
- 3 cognizant and conscious and taking care of this other
- 4 person, you have to rely on that person's intuition
- 5 and their opinions.
- 6 Like if you were driving me in a car to the
- 7 hospital because you said, Doug, you don't look good,
- 8 and you were taking care of me and you said, I'm
- 9 taking you to the hospital, if your boss called you
- and said, put Doug on the phone, like after we had
- this conversation you would know I'm not putting Doug
- on the phone, like I am going to decide that I need to
- go to the hospital.
- I learned from a heat stroke expert today
- that their opinion when they're in a crisis situation
- 16 we're not going to heed them, we're going to go on my
- 17 intuition. So that's something that just globally you
- would not want to rely on a heat stroke victim's
- 19 opinion in that situation.
- 20 Q But you're assuming there that it is in fact
- 21 a heat stroke victim?
- 22 A I agree.
- Q But let's assume it's somebody that's just
- 24 overheated?
- 25 A Just in this particular case David felt that

- there may have been a heat illness present and there
- 2 may have been a heart issue. In those two
- 3 circumstances his ability to sense this was much
- 4 better than somebody in a remote location.
- 5 There are times where a supervisor should
- 6 overrule somebody, like if someone says, I'm driving
- 7 to the hospital and the supervisor says, the hospital
- 8 is 100 miles and you have an AED one mile behind you
- and the person might be having a heart attack,
- 10 supervisor tells him to turn around and go where the
- 11 AED is. That's makes sense.
- But in a heat stroke situation like this you
- would want to rely on the person who's there, just
- like the example I just gave you. If you were
- transporting me I would want you to make the decision
- for my care, not me make the decision as me the person
- 17 who may be suffering from a heat stroke.
- 18 Q Well, and I understand your earlier
- 19 testimony saying that you should not have relied on
- 20 Jared Whitt's request to go back to the cooling
- 21 station, correct?
- 22 A Yes.
- Q All right. Do you have any other opinions
- or bases for opinions on this issue?
- 25 A No, I've hit my big global items.

- Q All right. Continuing with your report then
 where we left off as I'm looking we have talked about
- 3 consideration three, right?
- 4 A Yes.
- 5 Q Is there anything else about consideration
- three that we haven't discussed?
- 7 A No.
- 8 Q Consideration four, do you have any, up to
- 9 the point where you're citing Federal Railroad
- 10 Administrative regulations, we'll talk about that
- 11 separate, but let's talk about specifically heat
- 12 issues and --
- 13 A One and two we definitely covered already.
- Q Okay.
- 15 A Three was just me commenting on that, there
- 16 was something about dry, hot skin in one of the Union
- 17 Pacific materials and that we don't ever tell people
- 18 that for heat stroke anymore.
- 19 Q Well, some publications including from OSHA
- 20 still make that reference, agreed?
- 21 A I don't disagree. I'm just trying to tell
- you that everybody should have it out of their
- 23 materials.
- Q That would be your recommendation?
- 25 A In medicine everyone is suggesting taking it

- 1 out, not just Doug.
- 2 Q Even though OSHA doesn't take it out, so
- 3 OSHA is doing something different than what you're
- 4 recommending, agreed?
- 5 A That is true. We need to get OSHA to
- 6 change.
- 7 Q Go ahead and continue.
- 8 A I think we covered the rest of that stuff
- 9 with the treatment there.
- I already mentioned to you that I believe
- that the heat index should have been, you know, done
- 12 through the day on site.
- 13 Q Okay.
- 14 A Number two there on that page five talks
- about I didn't think the five minute break was
- 16 sufficient, we talked about that earlier.
- 17 Down below it talks about the buddy system,
- 18 I wasn't positive that was in place for Jared that
- 19 day.
- 20 Q But if in fact co-workers were there and did
- 21 check up on Jared during the day and if we assume that
- that occurred then you agree with me, you wouldn't
- have any criticisms about Union Pacific's buddy system
- 24 and the fact that it --
- MR. COX: Form and foundation.

- 1 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 2 that it implemented the buddy system that
- 3 it did that day, agreed?
- 4 A I think it comes down to, I think the letter
- of the law kind of for a buddy system is you have
- 6 somebody assigned to you.
- 7 I think what you're speaking of which I do
- 8 think took place was that he had supervision, like
- 9 people were looking out for him.
- 10 But I don't think there was like a -- when
- 11 people talk about having a buddy system in industry or
- 12 like in the military it's like I'm looking out for
- 13 Mike and Mike is looking at out for Jack, do you know
- 14 what I mean.
- 15 Q Do you agree with me though in that scenario
- 16 it's usually somebody that is working right next to
- 17 you?
- 18 A No, agreed. So he might not have had
- someone that has the job that he would be right next
- 20 to him.
- 21 Q So when you have people that are spread out
- somewhat on different machines, other people working
- through the area, safety captains, circulating through
- the area and certainly stopping then by each
- individual employee, that's a good practice?

- 1 A As long as it happens frequently.
- 2 Q Okay. Define frequently.
- 3 MR. COX: Form and foundation.
- 4 A If someone is going to be, have a chance to
- 5 interact with someone like every ten to 15 minutes,
- 6 you know, just checking up on them.
- 7 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 8 Q You're saying every ten to 15 minutes
- 9 somebody should stop by and check --
- 10 A No, just have the ability to know, let's
- just say something does goes wrong, is it going to be
- an hour before someone passes by again, do you have
- them like in a visual line of sight?
- Q So a visual line of sight would be
- 15 acceptable?
- 16 A You don't want to go like an hour without
- 17 having contact with someone.
- 18 Q So as long as you're at least in the visual
- 19 line of sight?
- 20 A Yes, see what Jared is doing, the machine is
- 21 still going, he's still working.
- 22 Q That would satisfy your opinion on what
- 23 should be --
- 24 A I would want to occasionally have
- interaction verbally with the person, you know, you

- stop by every 30 to 60 minutes, do you have enough water, do you feel okay, you know.
- Q If we assume that that occurred, that there
 was personal contact throughout the day as well as
 visual observations that could be made at any time
 then in your opinion Union Pacific provided an
- 7 appropriate buddy system, if that occurred?
 - A I think there might have been you could say appropriate supervision throughout the day, I just don't know how long he was laying down for before he started to get tired, I don't think there's anything in the testimony so we know that.
- Q About how long he was lying down before someone came to him?
- 15 A Before he got transported away, like how 16 many minutes was he actually laying down for.
- 17 Q Do you have any evidence that you're 18 critical of Union --
- 19 A No, I'm just saying I don't know.
- 20 Q Okay.

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- A Like you could tell me he was down for three minutes, he might have been down for eight minutes, I don't know.
- Q So there's nothing that you're aware of that you're critical of in that respect?

- 1 A No.
- Q Okay. Any other opinions, have we talked
- 3 about all your opinions, bases for your opinions up to
- 4 this point before we start reading federal
- 5 regulations?
- 6 A I think so, yes.
- 7 Q Okay. Now, let's talk about those. First
- 8 of all, you cited Federal Railroad Administration
- 9 internal control plan; you've also cited a federal
- 10 statute, the Federal Railroad Safety Act, right?
- 11 A Yes.
- 12 Q First of all, have you been employed by the
- 13 FRA?
- 14 A No.
- 15 Q I think I may have asked you that earlier.
- 16 A No.
- 17 Q You're not a lawyer?
- 18 A No.
- 19 Q And I'm not trying to be, I don't know,
- 20 what's the term, but as I'm reading your report I
- 21 understand the fact that you're rendering some
- 22 opinions about some heat issues --
- 23 A I think the take home message here is just
- 24 anything that is related to how medical care should be
- 25 not interfered with. So you know already know my

- opinion was that his medical care should not have been
- 2 interfered with by the supervisor when David was
- 3 taking care of him.
- 4 Q When you say it was interfered with by the
- 5 supervisor tell me what you mean.
- 6 A David wanted to take him to the hospital.
- 7 Q Because David Birt thought he was having a
- 8 heart attack?
- 9 A And he also thought he was having heat
- 10 issues from that day.
- Q Well, that the heart attack was related to
- the whatever heat issues?
- 13 A Yes, I think David mentioned that there
- might have been a heat illness, there might be a heart
- 15 issue.
- 16 Q All right.
- 17 A David's goals were, David wanted to take him
- to the hospital, and after the supervisor called that
- 19 was reversed.
- 20 Q In your opinion that just shouldn't have
- occurred, I mean, regardless of whatever the
- supervisor is that's there, whatever decision or
- thought that that supervisor had, that's what should
- 24 be done without anybody above questioning it or doing
- anything by way of getting information or discussion,

conversation?

1

I have no problem with the supervisor 2 calling but if David says I'm worried about a heart 3 attack or a heart issue and I'm worried about a 4 potential heat illness or a serious heat illness no 5 one should ever offer an opinion from a remote site 6 that would potentially -- it's not like saying take 7 him to this hospital or call an ambulance right from 8 9 that spot or we have a doctor back at the cooling 10 situation, he's not offering an alternative medical care, he reversed him from any medical care, he 11 eliminated medical care because there was no medical 12 person back at the cooling station. 13 Well, but the way it was reversed here, do 14 you agree with me the reason that they didn't continue 15 on to the hospital, at least according to the 16 17 testimony from everybody that was there is that Jared 18 made the statement, made the decision, made the statement that he didn't want to go to the hospital, 19 that he wanted to go to the cooling tent? 20 MR. COX: Form and foundation. 21 BY MR. SCHMITT: 22 Agreed? 0

23

24 I agree that Jared may have said that. But we already talked about that, heat stroke victims 25

- can't get into that, and David had the belief in his
- 2 heart that he should take this guy to the hospital, he
- 3 was doing that, and David even admits a couple of days
- 4 that I should have taken him to the hospital, like he
- 5 knows in his gut that that was the right thing to do.
- 6 I'm just saying a person calling from a
- 7 remote site, I can't even imagine, if I ever called
- 8 someone up driving to a hospital and I said I think
- 9 the guy I'm taking to the hospital right now might be
- 10 having a heart attack, I would never tell the person
- driving the person to the hospital to stop driving
- 12 him.
- Q Right. All right. You've told me about all
- of your reasons and bases for that opinion?
- 15 A Yes.
- 16 Q Let's just talk about specifically your
- 17 citing to CFR, Code of Federal Regulation internal
- 18 control plan. First of all, is it fair to say all
- 19 you're doing is simply repeating what the regulation
- 20 says in your report?
- 21 A Yes. I just said that, obviously I'm not a
- lawyer but I was thinking that they did not follow the
- recommendation of this internal control plan.
- Q But whether or not Union Pacific did or did
- 25 not follow any recommendation of an internal control

- 1 plan all you're doing, isn't it fair to say that all
- you're doing is you're just looking at the facts and
- just trying to in your mind apply whatever the facts
- 4 are to what the language says in the statute?
- 5 A Yes.
- 6 Q You're not applying any type of scientific
- 7 methodology to that analysis, are you?
- 8 A Well, I made mention already that anything
- 9 that increased the amount of time that Jared was
- 10 hyperthermic could affect his outcome.
- 11 Q I understand that. Let me just be quite
- 12 honest and frank.
- 13 A Yes.
- 14 Q Trying to render opinions about whether or
- 15 not Union Pacific violated federal statutes or federal
- 16 regulations, I'm trying to find out what is your
- 17 expertise and basis to render those types of opinions.
- I understand and you've made yourself very
- 19 clear that certain things should have been done or
- shouldn't have been done based on your opinion as to
- industry standards and practices.
- 22 A Right.
- Q It's a whole different issue to now say that
- 24 Union Pacific violated a federal law, I mean, this CFR
- 25 regulation, this Federal Railroad Safety Act, that's

- going a little bit further. Do you understand the
- 2 distinction that I'm making here?
- 3 MR. COX: Form and foundation.
- 4 A Obviously it's a big difference for you I
- 5 can tell. I'm not, I just took the exact words and
- 6 considered this particular case in relation to that
- 7 language.
- 8 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 9 Q That's the extent of your analysis, correct?
- 10 A This particular case, I mean, I think I was
- 11 very consistent through the documents that, you know,
- 12 I was critical of how the medical care was provided.
- Q But by way of you're saying a violation of
- 14 the statutes occurred --
- 15 A I maybe don't understand the statute well
- 16 enough to know if it was violated or not.
- 17 Q All right. In fact it's Federal Railroad
- 18 Safety Act 49 USC Section 20109, did you even see
- 19 that, ever even read that statute before this case?
- 20 A I don't want to say because in the previous
- 21 cases I may have seen that.
- Q But you don't remember seeing it sitting
- here today, I understand it's subject to confirmation
- 24 by looking, but just sitting here?
- 25 A I wasn't familiar with it when I was reading

- this like a couple of months ago but I may have seen
- 2 it previously.
- Q Okay.
- 4 A That might have been shared with me in
- 5 previous documents.
- 6 Q So staying with the Code of Federal
- 7 Regulation all you're doing is you're just simply
- 8 reading it and based on these facts as I understand
- 9 them either this was complied with or it wasn't
- 10 complied with, is that right?
- 11 A Yes.
- 12 Q That's the extent of any scientific
- methodology that you applied?
- 14 A Yes.
- 15 Q I mean, you agree with me that really that
- 16 type of analysis of whether or not that CFR was
- violated or whether or not that Federal Railroad
- 18 Safety Act was violated, that's no different than what
- a juror would be able to do, they're going to have the
- 20 facts, they can read the statute and the juror can
- 21 make the decision on their own whether or not either
- one of those were violated or complied with. Agreed?
- MR. COX: Form and foundation.
- 24 A Yes.

- 1 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 2 Q But --
- 3 A I think we hit all the key items.
- 4 Q Fair enough. Same by way of the, you cite
- 5 to the GCOR, General Code of Operating Rules, and
- 6 Union Pacific maintenance of way rules, again is that
- 7 the extent of your analysis is simply just reading
- 8 what the rule says and then making a judgment call as
- 9 to whether or not based on these facts that rule was
- or was not complied with?
- 11 A Yes.
- 12 Q And a juror sitting there can make as equal
- of an assessment as you can in that respect?
- MR. COX: Form and foundation.
- 15 A They may not have my background obviously
- 16 for the medical side of it.
- 17 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 18 Q I understand that.
- 19 A But they can form their own opinion based on
- 20 language as well.
- 21 Q Right. Doctor, is there anything else in
- your report, we have got some additional
- 23 considerations --
- 24 A No, that's just reiterated, we covered them
- 25 all already.

- 1 Q All right. Do you have any opinions or
- 2 bases for your opinions that you intend to renter in
- 3 this case that we have not already talked about here
- 4 today?
- 5 A Not unless brand new information became
- 6 available to me. Based on everything I have up to
- 7 this point we have done a very exhaustive job of
- 8 covering it.
- 9 MR. SCHMITT: Okay. That's all I have.
- 10 Thank you very much.
- 11 THE WITNESS: All right.
- 12 CROSS EXAMINATION
- 13 BY MR. COX:
- Q Dr. Casa, can you hear me all right?
- 15 A Yes.
- 16 Q Did the delay in getting Jared Whitt to the
- 17 hospital cause or contribute to a greater injury as a
- 18 result of the exposure to the heat?
- MR. SCHMITT: Form, foundation.
- 20 A I do believe that the delay in his care
- 21 affected the outcome.
- 22 BY MR. COX:
- 23 Q How?
- 24 A Because the amount of time that he was
- overheated or hyperthermic influenced the severity of

- 1 the exertional heat stroke that he suffered and
- 2 affected the things that he struggled with in the
- days, weeks that followed and even potentially up to
- 4 his current condition.
- 5 Q That's the question we don't have an answer
- 6 to yet, is whether or not his heat tolerance has been
- 7 affected?
- 8 A That is correct. As noted earlier that's
- 9 something I think that people should consider
- 10 pursuing.
- 11 Q Did the delay in getting Jared Whitt to the
- 12 hospital cause or contribute to his delay in his
- 13 recovery from the heat stroke?
- MR. SCHMITT: Form, foundation.
- 15 A Yes, because I think they're related to each
- 16 other, the recovery is directly related to the
- 17 severity of the condition that happens acutely.
- 18 BY MR. COX:
- 19 Q Is it true that one who suffers a heat
- 20 stroke has an increased susceptibility to subsequent
- 21 heat injury?
- 22 A That's a really good question. If a person
- is not treated properly, yes, the evidence indicates
- they might be at a greater risk for having heat
- 25 illnesses in the future.

- 2 second.
- 3 A Okay.
- 4 (Pause.)
- 5 Q Do I understand your opinion to be within a
- 6 reasonable probability that at the time of Mr. Whitt's
- 7 mild heat stroke his temperature was in the 105 to 106
- 8 degree range?
- 9 MR. SCHMITT: Form, foundation.
- 10 A I would say it was at least 105, I don't
- 11 want to say for sure but most likely it was probably
- somewhere between 105 and 106.
- 13 BY MR. COX:
- 14 Q It's your opinion that he was in that 30 to
- 15 60 minute window -- what is your opinion about the 30
- 16 to 60 minute window for one that is in the 105 --
- 17 THE COURT REPORTER: I can't hear him.
- 18 A He said what's your opinion on if someone is
- in the 30 to 60 minute window.
- THE WITNESS: Is that what you said, Jim?
- MR. COX: Yes.
- 22 BY MR. COX:
- Q Where was Mr. Whitt in that window at that
- temperature?
- MR. SCHMITT: Form, foundation.

Given how he was feeling later that day and 1 Α in the days and the week after I believe that he was 2 in the 30 to 60 minute window because we don't see 3 that kind of response if someone is cooled in the zero 4 to 30 minute window, those people tend to do much 5 better in the days after the condition presents 6 itself. 7 BY MR. COX: 8 9 0 Explain again if you would that 30 to 60 10 minute window, window for what? That's the amount of time that the person is Α 11 above like the threshold for cell damage that some 12 people speculate is around 105 or so. 13 Could you clarify for us your opinion based 14 on your education, training and experience as to 15 whether or not the heat stroke and all of the signs 16 17 and symptoms that Mr. Whitt described and demonstrated 18 to witnesses caused or contributed to the underlying injury and its sequelae today of continuing numbness 19 and tingling, pain and weakness in his left arm? 20 MR. SCHMITT: Form, foundation. 21 I definitely think that they could have been Α 22 23

22 A I definitely think that they could have been 23 related because of the contractures and the numbness 24 and tingling that he experienced during the heat 25 stroke could be related to what he's currently

- 1 experiencing.
- 2 BY MR. COX:
- 3 Q That opinion is based on your education,
- 4 training and experience more than likely than not?
- 5 A Yes.
- 6 MR. SCHMITT: Same objections.
- 7 BY MR. COX:
- Q Do you have an opinion as to whether or not
- 9 the delay in the treatment, the delay of getting him
- 10 to the hospital caused or contributed to an
- exacerbation of that underlying injury and the
- 12 symptoms that continue in his left arm?
- MR. SCHMITT: Same objections.
- 14 A Yes, I do believe it could have exacerbated
- it because if he had gone immediately into the
- 16 hospital the physicians at the hospital might have
- 17 given him pharmaceutical intervention to stop the
- 18 contractures or at least decreased the severity of it.
- 19 BY MR. COX:
- 20 Q In terms of what Union Pacific Railroad
- 21 could have been done to prevent this heat injury to
- 22 Mr. Whitt did I understand you to recommend that they
- 23 monitor if possible the heat conditions at the job
- 24 site rather than relying on National Weather Service
- or other information?

- 1 Α Yes. 2 MR. SCHMITT: Form. The two biggest things that I would 3 Α recommend that Union Pacific do is: One, to have a 4 5 policy for work to rest ratios based on the environmental conditions; and second would be 6 monitoring the environmental conditions on site and 7 doing so in a manner that would give you WBGT. 8 9 Are you acquainted with what an anemometer 10 is? 11 Α Yes. What is an anemometer? 12 0 An anemometer is a device that can give you 13 the temperature and humidity. 14 MR. COX: Okay. That's all the questions 15 I have, Dr. Casa. Thank you, sir. 16 17 MR. SCHMITT: Just follow up with a few 18 and we'll be done. 19 REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. SCHMITT: 20 This anemometer, that's something that you 21 could use in connection with this WBGT analysis? 22
- 23 A The WBGT would eliminate the need for the
 24 anemometer, the WBGT eliminates the need for an
 25 anemometer or any kind of device that gives you the

- other ones because the WBGT device gives you the three temperatures you need.
- Q Right. And again this WBGT is something
 that you would recommend but you agree that that is
 not something that's universally used in the industry?
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 Q As far as this fact that -- strike that.
- Do you agree, Doctor, that it is possible
 that if Mr. Whitt had been taken to the hospital
 immediately from the job site that his ultimate
 condition and his current condition, that that may
- have been exactly the same as what it was given the
- fact that he went back to the cooling station?
- 14 A I don't think it would have been the same.
- 15 Q All right. Do you agree with me that it

 16 could be possible, I understand you don't believe it's

 17 likely, but do you agree that it's possible that it
- 17 likely, but do you agree that it's possible th
- 18 could have been?
- 19 MR. COX: Form and foundation. Calls for 20 speculation.
- 21 A It's possible but unlikely.
- 22 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- Q All right. Do you also agree with me that
- 24 the condition that Mr. Whitt is currently complaining
- of with his left upper extremity, that it may be

- 1 completely unrelated to his heat related incident?
- 2 MR. COX: Form and foundation.
- 3 A It's possible but unlikely.
- 4 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 5 Q All right. You understand that some of the
- 6 treating doctors have identified and diagnosed his
- 7 condition as being carpal tunnel and tennis elbow, do
- 8 you understand that?
- 9 A Yes.
- 10 Q And of course carpal tunnel and tennis elbow
- aren't caused by a heat stroke, are they?
- MR. COX: Forms and foundation.
- 13 A No.
- 14 BY MR. SCHMITT:
- 15 Q All right. Doctor, I'm assuming this to be
- 16 the case but just let me make sure I'm clear, that
- 17 throughout the deposition anytime that I asked you
- 18 questions you always understood my questions and if I
- 19 asked a bad question you asked me to rephrase it or
- 20 get that straightened out before you actually answered
- 21 it?
- 22 A Completely understood the questions. They
- 23 were very well conducted.
- 24 Q Okay.
- 25 A The only thing is that the Ornellas I want

to substitute for Linford during the earlier part, so 1 the person who I believed first saw Jared and laid him 2 down and got him up and helped get him to the vehicle, 3 that was Ornellas. 4 5 MR. SCHMITT: Very good. That's all I have. 6 MR. COX: Thank you, Doctor. 7 I'll take an etran and please attach all 8 9 of the exhibits to my copy. 10 And Doug, when you send me those new exhibits send those to me so I can get those to 11 David. 12 THE WITNESS: Absolutely. 13 MR. COX: You have the right to read and 14 sign the deposition or waive reading and signing. 15 THE WITNESS: I want to read and sign. 16 17 THE COURT REPORTER: Do you want me to 18 send it to you or to the deponent? 19 MR. COX: You can send it to directly to Dr. Casa. 20 21 THE COURT REPORTER: Okay. THE WITNESS: I'll make these exhibits 22 23 here. 24 (Deposition concluded at 1:14 p.m.)

25

1	STATE OF CONNECTICUT		
2	COUNTY OF TOLLAND		
3			
4	I, Julie Blier, a Notary Public in and		
5	for the State of Connecticut, do hereby certify		
6	that the above proceedings were reported by me		
7	stenographically and this transcript represents a		
8	true and accurate transcription of said		
9	proceedings.		
LO	I further certify that I am not related		
L1	to the parties hereto or their counsel, and that		
L2	I am not in any way interested in the event of		
L3	said cause.		
L4	Dated at Hebron, Connecticut, this 13th		
L5	day of March, 2014.		
L6			
L7			
L8			
L9	Julie Blier, BA, LCR Notary Public		
20	CT License No. 0093		
21	My Commission Expires: March 31, 2019		
22	Halen Si, Zoiy		
23			
24			
25			

I N D E X WITNESS DIRECT CROSS REDIRECT RECROSS DOUGLAS CASA DEFENDANT'S EXHIBITS FOR IDENTIFICATION EXHIBIT PAGE CV of Dr. Douglas Casa Opinion paper of Dr. Casa Brandon Peppers to Donna Baker Priscilla Whitt to Donna Baker OSHA Technical Manual (OTM), Section III, Chapter 4, 2/25/14, nine pages Appendix C, ACGIH Threshold Limit Values Microenvironment Heat Index, four pages Chronology, 14 pages Packet of emails, first page with sticker dated May 31, 2013

1	(Exhib	oits continued on next page)	
2	EXHIBI	T	PAGE
3	48	Contract between Casa and Brent	46
4		Coon and Associates	
5	49	Water requirements and soldier	140
6		hydration, one page	
7	50	Example of increase in WBGT from ACSM	141
8	51	High school example	142
9	52	Handwritten calculations	146
10		(Original exhibits filed with origina	1
11	t	ranscript and copies made for each atto	rney)
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1	CERTIFICATE OF DEPONENT
2	
3	I, DOUGLAS CASA, Ph.D., have
4	read the foregoing transcript of the testimony
5	given and it is true and accurate to the best of
6	my knowledge as originally transcribed and/or
7	noted on the attached Errata Sheet.
8	
9	DOUGLAS CASA, Ph.D.
10	Subscribed to and sworn to before me on
11	this day of ,
12	2014.
13	
14	
15	Notary Public
16	My Commission expires:
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	No. 8:12-CV-00358, JARED L. WHITT VS UNION PACIFIC
25	RAILROAD, DEPOSITION OF DOUGLAS CASA, Ph.D., February 28, 2014, (jb).